

## SUNDAY, MAY 29, 2016

### SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)

#### The power of a single voice

The feast of Corpus Christi is popular and moving because it is simple and direct—it's all about the Eucharist, one of the greatest treasures of Catholicism. Yet the feast would not exist were it not for the efforts of Juliana of Liège, a Norbertine canoness born in 1191 in Liège, Belgium, a city where there were groups of women dedicated to eucharistic worship. She had a vision of a full moon with one dark spot signifying the lack of a feast day solely dedicated to the Eucharist. She shared her vision and eventually vision became reality. What gift can you envision giving to your community?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 14:18-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Luke 9:11b-17 (169)*. "Jesus spoke to the crowds about the kingdom of God."

## MONDAY, MAY 30

### Heal the wounds of war

On this Memorial Day, as you remember those who gave their lives serving their country, also keep in your heart those who have lost loved ones, those struggling with physical and emotional wounds, and all other victims of war. Pray and work for the reconciliation of divided peoples and for peace in your community and around the world. The U.S. bishops urge all to pray on this day: "Banish violence from our midst and wipe away our tears, that we may all deserve to be called your sons and daughters."

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Peter 1:2-7; Mark 12:1-12 (353)*. "May grace and peace be yours in abundance through knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord."

## TUESDAY, MAY 31

### FEAST OF THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

#### Look who's here!

A friend comes to visit. Just the thought can redeem the darkest day! Whether we're confined by illness, grieving a loss, in need of practical assistance, or just pleasantly surprised by a familiar face at the door, the time of visitation is a bright hour of consolation. The encounter between Mary and Elizabeth was more than the welcome arrival of help for an aged mother's third trimester. God's saving power intersected these two lives and gave them to each other, to share the joy. Bring good news to someone today.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Zephaniah 3:14-18a or Romans 12:9-16; Luke 1:39-56 (572)*. "Mary set out . . . in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth."

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1 FEAST OF JUSTIN, MARTYR

### What's the good Word?

Christian theology owes a debt to the pre-Christian philosophies of Plato and Aristotle. Early church theologian Justin was able to see connections between the great philosophers of Greek antiquity and the wisdom revealed by Jesus. The prologue of John's Gospel speaks of Jesus as "Logos," the preexisting Word. Justin believed that the "seeds of Christianity" found in thinkers such as Plato



THE VISION OF ST. JULIANA OF MONT CORNILION, PHILIPPE DE CHAMPAIGNE (ABOUT 1645-50)

or Aristotle were evidence of the Logos acting in history before Christ's incarnation. Whether or not Plato and Aristotle were "unknowing Christians," we are *knowing* Christians. Spend some time with the Word today.

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Timothy 1:1-3, 6-12; Mark 12:18-27 (355)*. "Are you not misled because you do not know the scriptures or the power of God?"

## THURSDAY, JUNE 2

### FEAST OF MARCELLINUS AND PETER, MARTYRS

#### Exercise with caution

We don't know a lot about Marcellinus and Peter, martyred in 304, but we know Peter was an exorcist, an often misunderstood or over-dramatized office of church ministry. The rite itself was revised in 1999 for the first time since 1614, and modern practice counsels priests empowered to perform an exorcism to first make sure they are dealing with genuine possession rather than mental illness. The Code of Canon Law states that the bishop is to give permission to perform the rite to a priest "who has piety, knowledge, prudence, and integrity of life." We rely on Jesus to protect us from the power of evil, and the church stands by our side should we need assistance in doing so.

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Timothy 2:8-15; Mark 12:28-34 (356)*. "You are not far from the kingdom of God."

## FRIDAY, JUNE 3

### SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

#### Have a heart that never stops

To do something "without heart" means to live without passion or purpose. "In the Heart of Christ," Saint John Paul II wrote, a person's heart "learns to know the genuine and unique meaning" of life and destiny: "to unite the filial love for God and the love of neighbor." The Sacred Heart reminds us that Jesus had a heart just like ours; that his acts of love aren't beyond us, but are already in us, in every loving gesture, relationship, and experience. This is the heart of what gives us life—a heart whose love never stops beating in us.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Ezekiel 34:11-16; Romans 5:5b-11; Luke 15:3-7 (172)*. "The love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us."

## SATURDAY, JUNE 4

### MEMORIAL OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

#### See with a mother's heart

"In a unique way the face of the Son belongs to Mary," Saint John Paul II wrote in *Rosarium Virginis Mariae* ("The Rosary of the Virgin Mary"). Jesus was the child she gazed upon in the manger, the one she pondered in her heart throughout her life. Her heart was filled with a love for him that embraced the pain of the Passion and the joy of the Resurrection. Such love, held in her Immaculate Heart, is an example to us all of a love that gives life, that's meant to be cherished, adored, and that ultimately longs to lead us back to her Son over and over again.

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Timothy 4:1-8 (358); Luke 2:41-51 (573)*. "And his mother kept all these things in her heart."



Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

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# CatholicMom.com Gospel Activity - Luke 9:11B-17



BASKETS  
CURED  
DISMISS  
HEALED  
KINGDOM  
LUKE  
SATISFIED

BLESSING  
DESERTED  
FISH  
HEAVEN  
LOAVES  
NUMBERED  
TWELVE

CROWDS  
DISCIPLES  
FRAGMENTS  
JESUS  
LODGING  
PROVISIONS