



MONTHLY BULLETIN

May 2025

At Home with the Lord

After Jesus rose from the dead, He stayed with the disciples for a whirlwind forty days. Before His Ascension to heaven, our Lord still had much to accomplish, lessons to teach, and hearts to heal.

Power of the Wind

When winter turns to spring, kids who have been stuck inside all winter eagerly run outside to enjoy the warm breezes of kite-flying weather. Back in 18th-century England, a lad named George Pocock discovered that kites could harness the power of the wind and his imagination.

Curious to see if his kite could pull some weight, he tied a stone to the end of the string. When the experiment worked, he began dreaming of even bigger possibilities.

As George grew older, he built bigger kites and

Whirlwind Days

envisioned ways to use them. His most famous invention used wind power to replace the horses pulling carriages.



Fr. Tony Scannell
Chaplain

George and a partner patented the Charvolant, a vehicle powered by a giant kite. With the right wind, it could easily outrun a horse and carriage.

Facing Challenges

Guide lines attached to the customized kite helped to steer the Charvolant and adjust for crosswinds. If the vehicle needed more power, flying the kite higher could

catch more of a breeze further aloft.

Going Forward

After the Resurrection, the Disciples were filled with joy, but Jesus explained that He would soon leave them to return to the Father. He warned that the Disciples would face tough times ahead but promised that the Holy Spirit would guide them.

Just as George Pocock faced obstacles with his kite-powered vehicle, the Disciples went forth, knowing that they would encounter challenges. Above all, Jesus said to remain in His love.

Events in our lives can make us feel as if we're facing a headwind in trying to stay faithful. We need direction. The Holy Spirit offers to guide and help us, with grace given like a tug on a kite string pulled taut.

Prayer & Worship Guide



For yourself or someone you love, order a free subscription to use during TV Mass and in spiritual reading throughout each week. Please send the recipient's name and address to Heart of the Nation.



Spiritual Bouquets

Please use the enclosed, two-sided spiritual bouquet card to send the names of beloved mothers and fathers for remembrance at Mass on Mother's Day (May 11) or Father's Day (June 15).

“God bless you all, and thank everyone for bringing the Mass into my home.”

– Joyce



“Thanks to the church choirs. Also, thanks to all of the participants in the church.”

– Michele



“I get so much out of this ministry and the music, readings, and familiar rituals of a weekly Mass. Thanks to all of the Heart of the Nation family.”

– Mari

When in a Pickle

Jesus and the Disciples seemed to have gotten into quite a pickle. When they crossed the Sea of Galilee, a large crowd followed. Jesus asked Philip where they could buy food for everyone. Philip skipped over that question because they didn't have enough money anyway. Andrew pointed out that the available food amounted to five loaves and a couple of fish.



**Fr. Mark Payne
Chaplain**

Jesus chose not to immediately work a miracle, and it did not seem to cross the Disciples' minds to ask. After the picnic of food blessed and multiplied, the leftovers filled twelve baskets. Full understanding of the miracle would come later.

Motley Group

When choosing the Apostles, our Lord put Himself in the same boat with a group that lacked the credentials of learned scribes and Pharisees. At least the fishermen among the Twelve knew how to grab the oars and row.

In the jargon of competitive rowing and sailing, Jesus' crew might have manned the “pickle boat”—the one with oarsmen who didn't get picked for a hallowed

team or whose vessel took last place in a race. With Jesus, the last rank first.

Coming Together

Maybe you have watched Olympic rowing events and seen the impressive synchronization of eight athletes at the oars. In the back, a coxswain coaches, making sure the crew stays in sync and on course. Besides instruction to row harder on one side of the boat or all around, the coxswain shouts encouragement in a grueling race.

Rowers look toward the coxswain, the only one facing forward in the boat. Trusting every directive, members of the team find the strength to obey.

Like us, the Apostles could not foresee what lay ahead, whether a stroke of good fortune

or bad. Our Lord's words provide sure navigation. He knows how much we can accomplish if we put our faith in Him.

Choppy Waters

After multiplying the loaves and fish, Jesus left the crowd to go up a mountainside alone. By boat, the Apostles went ahead to Gennesaret.

They had rowed three or four miles out when Jesus walked on the water toward them. Despite the wind, He arrived in perfect sync with His crew's need!

People who had eaten the loaves and fish caught up with Jesus again, and He declared Himself the Bread of life. Faced with an idea beyond understanding, Peter looked to Jesus with trust that the Lord would not leave His Disciples adrift.



With Great Love

One day, a grandchild described “dear old Granddad” as good at fixing things but not really great at anything—except love! Jesus challenged the Apostles, and challenges all believers, to become known by love (John 13). Donating to Heart of the Nation offers a great chance to embrace the homebound, imprisoned, and others who may experience heartrending struggles to remain faithful. Please make your love known!



Mother's Day Prayer

Blessed Virgin Mary,

Whose gentleness and love
bless all people in your care,
please keep mothers
dear to me
in your loving prayers.

Reflecting on the joy
of awaiting Jesus' birth,
please pray for mothers-to-be
and newborns on this Earth.

Having nurtured Jesus,
who grew in wisdom
and strength,
please pray for mothers
teaching
their children love and faith.

For the blessings they are,
here and in heaven's glory,
please pray for mothers living
now and in memory.



Prayer for Those Who Serve

Lord Jesus,
In a world needing great
remedy, I come to You in
thanks for those who serve.
As they await joyful
homecomings, I pray that
longed-for reunions will
occur.

In faith and hope, I offer this
prayer for all who have
sacrificed their lives in war.
I pray, too, for those who
have been hurt and seen
things unimaginable before.

Lastly, I ask that meaning be
found in resolute desire for
peace pursued. May selfless
sacrifices be blessed and
honored with unforgotten
gratitude.

Bouquet of Papyrus Reeds

Mother's Day bouquets may include flowers chosen for their symbolism or just because a mother happens to like them. For the mother of Moses, tufted papyrus reeds would have made a meaningful gift.

Jochebed gave birth to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. At the time of Moses' birth, the Egyptian Pharaoh feared that enslaved Hebrews would revolt as their population grew during captivity. Pharaoh ordered the slaughter of newborn Hebrew males.

In the book of Exodus, Jochebed managed to hide Moses for three months, but the danger remained. She made a waterproof basket and placed it among reeds along the Nile River, with the infant Moses cradled inside. Moses' sister, Miriam, kept an eye on things from a distance. When Pharaoh's daughter discovered the crying baby, Miriam approached and offered to find a nursemaid—Moses' own mother.

Papyrus thrived in marshy riverbanks of the Nile. From the mucky ground grew plants with flowers, stalks sturdy enough to build small boats, and roots that served as paupers' food. With a mother's love, Jochebed had made a small lifeboat for her baby and found a way to continue nurturing him.

Years went by. Although returned to Pharaoh's household, Moses still cast his lot with his ancestral people. Seeing an Egyptian strike one of his fellow Israelites, Moses fatally struck back and fled. He found work as a shepherd. Leading a flock to Mount Horeb, Moses saw a flaming bush miraculously unconsumed and heard the voice of God commissioning him to lead the captives out of Egypt.

This year, Catholics celebrate World Day of Prayer for Vocations on the same Sunday as Mother's Day, May 11. In their vocations, mothers receive a bouquet of blessings to help in the discovery of God's plan for their children.



In Gratitude and Remembrance

Armed Forces Day: Saturday, May 17

Memorial Day: Monday, May 26

Armed Forces Day honors men and women currently serving in the military. President Harry Truman proclaimed the first Armed Forces Day in the year of our Lord 1950. Displaying the flag offers tribute to members of the military for upholding founding values of our nation. Prayer holds them close in love.

Memorial Day began after the Civil War with observances such as the flowers placed on both Union and Confederate soldiers' graves in Friendship Cemetery, in Columbus, Mississippi. Since the year 2000, people have paused at 3:00 p.m. local time on Memorial Day in a National Moment of Remembrance.

Did You Know?

As Jubilee Year 2025 continues for Catholics worldwide, celebrations in May focus on completeness. Workplaces, confraternities (groups dedicated to Catholic goals), families, and even marching bands bring people together in shared purpose.



May 1-4: Jubilee of Workers

May 4-5: Jubilee of Entrepreneurs

May 10-11: Jubilee of Musical Bands

May 12-14: Jubilee of the Eastern Churches

May 16-18: Jubilee of Confraternities

*May 30-June 1: Jubilee of Families, Children
Grandparents, and the Elderly*



Each year on May 1, the Church honors Saint Joseph the Worker. As a carpenter, he owned his own business. In the overall workforce, entrepreneurs like Joseph and employees all have a place in serving others.

Confraternities bring Catholic laypeople and/or clergy together for purposes that range from promoting public worship to pursuing works of charity. With the togetherness of a marching band in step along a parade route, confraternities serve the Church. Each member serves as an instrument of the whole.

May 31 brings the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. God's chosen Mother for Jesus visited Elizabeth, a relative who would miraculously give birth in her old age to John the Baptist. Through those two expectant mothers, God revealed the sacredness of families made complete—whether relatives on Earth or siblings in God the Father's household (Eph. 2:19).



Blessings Shared and Multiplied

Thank you, Circle of the Heart members, for sharing your faith by donating each month! In a miracle that began with one boy sharing what he could, Jesus blessed five loaves and two fish to provide food for a vast crowd. So, too, Heart of the Nation gratefully uses the gifts received each month to reach thousands upon thousands of people who experience the blessings of Holy Mass and inspirational Catholic publications to sustain them in faith.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 4, 2025
Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 11, 2025
Fourth Sunday of Easter
World Day of Prayer
for Vocations

Sunday, May 18, 2025
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 25, 2025
Sixth Sunday of Easter

Thursday, May 29, 2025
or Sunday, June 1, 2025
Ascension of the Lord
(May 29 is a Holy Day of obligation in the ecclesiastical provinces of Boston, Hartford, New York, Omaha, and Philadelphia. Heart of the Nation and most U.S. dioceses celebrate the Ascension on Sunday, June 1, 2025.)

Online Mass on Sundays and Holy Days: Available all day at www.HeartoftheNation.org

 **Heart of the Nation.**
CATHOLIC MASS

**For local time and TV
channel information,
please visit**
www.HeartoftheNation.org

or

Contact Us:

Heart of the Nation

P.O. Box 14428

Milwaukee, WI 53214

(855) 855-6277

Mail@HeartoftheNation.org

