

The Day of Pentecost

The Fiftieth Day of Easter

May 28, 2023

in the 170^h Year of the Parish

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

142 Market Street, Williamsport, PA 17701

stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org

Office (570-323-4619) Fax (570-323-2452)

Rev. Brian D. Vasey, Pastor

bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org

Welcome to Saint Mark's!

This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Our Mission: “To know Christ and to make Christ known.”



Please be aware:

Hand sanitizer is available for your use.

Face masks are optional.

Offerings may be received by way of baskets as you enter or leave.

A guide to hymnal use: LBW, Green Book; WOV, Blue Book

**Please stand as you are able.*

C = Congregation P = Pastor

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S WORSHIP

Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God's presence within and among us. In Acts the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different capacities, we are unified in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that through baptism we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God's redeeming love to all the world.

PRELUDE Veni creator spiritus (1645)
Giovanni Battista Fasolo (ca. 1598-1664)

Veni creator spiritus is a Latin hymn attribute to Rabanus Maurus, a ninth-century theologian. The tune has been set to music by various composers throughout history, including G. B Fasolo, an Italian composer known for polyphonic organ compositions. Fasolo's work showcases the chant's rich harmonic potential of the Renaissance.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life.

C **Amen.**

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,

we are welcomed, restored, and supported
as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Silence for reflection.

P Holy God,
holy and merciful,
holy and mighty,

you are the river of life,
you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.

In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,
and in them we are born anew.

Water is poured into the font as the pastor continues.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes,
for rivers and streams.

Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.

Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.

Empower our witness to your resurrection.

Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all people.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water.

Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.

Where despair prevails, grant hope.

Where chaos reigns, bring peace.

We ask this through Christ, the risen One,
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

C Amen.

***HYMN**

Gather Us In

WOV, "Blue", 718

***THE GREETING**

P The grace of the risen Christ, the love of God and the communion of the
Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

*KYRIE



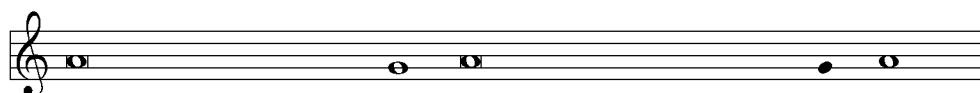
☒ In peace, let us pray to the Lord. ☒ Lord, have mer - cy.



☒ For the peace from a - bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



☒ Lord, have mer - cy.



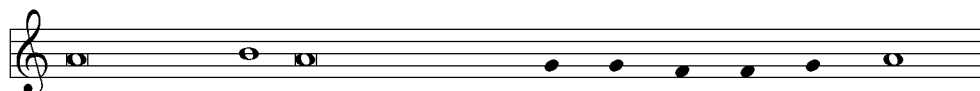
☒ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



☒ Lord, have mer - cy.



☒ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. ☒ Lord, have mer - cy.



☒ Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord. ☒ A - men

*HYMN OF PRAISE



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



B Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE FIRST READING.....Acts 2:1-21

1When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. 2And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

5Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? 9Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” 12All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” 13But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

14But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 15Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. 16No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

17‘In the last days it will be, God declares,

that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

18Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;
and they shall prophesy.

19And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

20The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

21Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' ”

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 104:24-34, 35b

24How manifold are your | works, O LORD!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full | of your creatures.

**25Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too man- | y to number,
living things both | small and great.**

26There go the ships | to and fro,
and Leviathan, which you made for the | sport of it.

**27All of them | look to you
to give them their food | in due season.**

28You give it to them; they | gather it;
you open your hand, and they are filled | with good things.

**29When you hide your face, | they are terrified;
when you take away their breath, they die and return | to their dust.**

30You send forth your Spirit, and they | are created;
and so you renew the face | of the earth.

31May the glory of the LORD en- | dure forever;

O LORD, rejoice in | all your works.

32 You look at the earth | and it trembles;
you touch the mountains | and they smoke.

33 I will sing to the LORD as long | as I live;

I will praise my God while I | have my being.

34 May these words of | mine please God.

I will rejoice | in the LORD.

35b Bless the LORD, | O my soul.

Hal- | lelujah!

THE SECOND READING.....1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

3b No one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

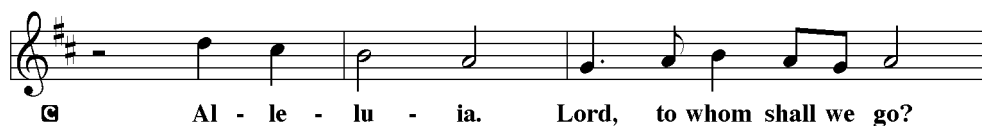
4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

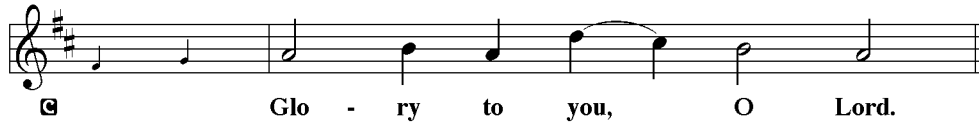
The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

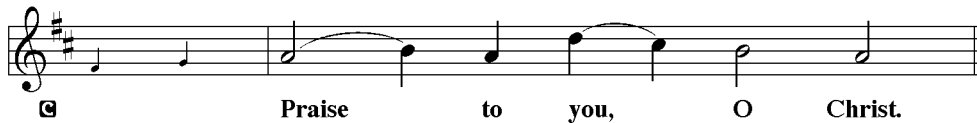


***THE HOLY GOSPEL.....John 20:19-23**



P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 20th chapter

19When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 20After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” 22When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”
The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***HYMN Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing LBW, “Green”, 559**

***THE NICENE CREED**

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

**C We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,**

**begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

After each petition, "Hear us O God/Your mercy is great."

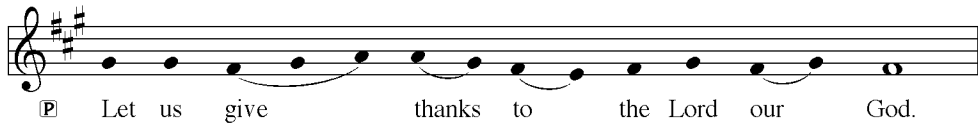
***THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

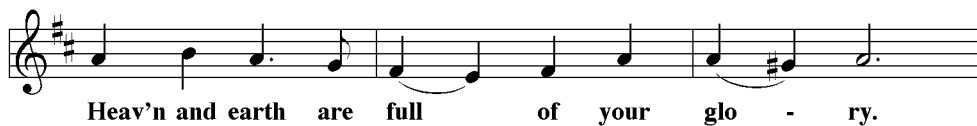
C And also with you.

The ministers and congregation greet one another with these or similar words.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who rose beyond the bounds of death and on this day, as he had promised, poured out the Spirit of life and power upon the disciples. At this the whole earth exults in boundless joy. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations and made for

yourself a chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to all to drink saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

For as often as we eat this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, gracious Father, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection, that we who receive the Lord's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Join our prayers with those of your saints of every time and place, and unite them with ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the u-ni-ty
of the Ho-ly Spir - it, all hon - or and glo - ry is
yours, al-might-y Fa-ther, now and for-ev-er. A - men

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,**

thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

***LAMB OF GOD**



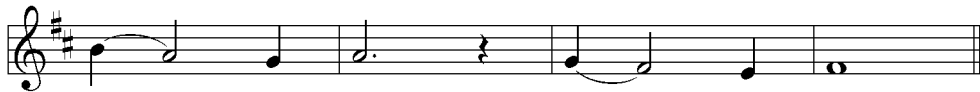
☐ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a- way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION** *All Are Welcome to Receive.*

Persons may come forward to the chancel to receive Holy Communion. This format will be more “continuous” noting the following procedure:

- *Communicants as directed by ushers are asked to come forward by way of the center aisle, take a cup from the tray provided and receive the bread.*
- *Once receiving the bread, communicants will proceed to one of two stations (left or right) to receive wine from the pouring chalice.*
- *After receiving wine, communicants will place the empty cup in the designated tray and return to their pew by way of the side aisles.*

P Come and dine with the Risen Christ!

C Thanks be to God.

THE COMMUNION

***AFTER COMMUNION**

P The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P Let us pray. Gracious God,
in you we live and move and have our being.
With your word and this meal of grace,
you have nourished our life together.
Strengthen us to show your love
and serve the world in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

***THE BLESSING**

P The God of all,
who raised † Jesus from the dead,
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
to live in the new creation.

C Amen.

***HYMN**

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind
(Hymn appears on next page)

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind



1 God of tem - pest, God of whirl - wind, as on Pen - te -
 2 God of blaz - ing, God of burn - ing, all that blocks your
 3 God of earth - quake, God of thun - der, shake us loose from
 4 God of pas - sion, God un - sleep - ing, stir in us love's



cost de - scend! Drive us out from shel - tered com - fort;
 pur - pose, purge! Through your church, Christ's liv - ing Bod - y,
 leth - ar - gy! Break the chains of sin a - sun - der,
 rest - less - ness! Where the peo - ple cry in an - guish,



past these walls your peo - ple send! Sweep us in - to cost - ly ser - vice,
 let your flam - ing Spir - it surge! Where de - ceit con - ceals in - jus - tice,
 for earth's heal - ing set us free! Crum - ble walls that still di - vide us;
 may we share your heart's dis - tress. Rouse us from con - tent with e - vil;



there with Christ to bear the cross, there with Christ to bear the cross!
 kin - dle us to speak your truth, kin - dle us to speak your truth!
 make us one in Christ our Lord, make us one in Christ our Lord!
 claim us for your king - dom's work, claim us for your king - dom's work!

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

Text © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com
 800.442.3358 All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

*DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Risen Lord!

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE Fantasy on Veni creator spiritus

Anonymous

+++++

Portions of this service are reprinted with permission from...

Lutheran Book of Worship (copyright, 1978)

Augsburg-Fortress Publishers (#2562-L).

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (copyright 2006)

Augsburg-Fortress Publishers, under license #2562-L.

sundayandseasons.com (copyright 2019), Augsburg-Fortress. All rights reserved.

Augsburg-Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB144818.

“One License” A-738528.

+++++



Prayer List: Victims of COVID-19 and their families, Liz Ruesskamp, Grace Arner, Diane Damaska, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Patricia Alexander, Diana Zeigler, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, April Clark, Lenny Sherlinski, Ruth Sherlinski, Gary Cable, Elsie Sechler,

Virginia Pulaskie, Susan Kalabacas, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, the people of Ukraine, Eastern Europe and Afghanistan, Ezra Buckman, Sheila Brassard, Kevin Rosini, Kathy Eshelman, Micah, Steve Beiber, Deb Buckman, Linda Rosini.



PASTOR ON VACATION. Tuesday, May 30-Sunday, June 4 Pastor Vasey will be on vacation. Pr. Ron Montgomery (570-584-4465) will be on call during pastor's absence and Ray Huff (Synod Authorized Lay Worship Leader) will preach and preside on Sunday June 4.



May 28, 2023

Lector	8:00 a.m.	Pastor Vasey
	10:30 a.m.	Linda Rosini
Communion Assistants	8:00 a.m.	Drew Haussmann
	10:30 a.m.	Deb Buckman and Mindy Wentzel
Organist		Sam Robinson
Ushers	8:00 a.m.	Richard Miller and Herb Poff
	10:30 a.m.	Gary Weber, captain Shelby Weber, Dick Reitz
Altar Guild	May	Bev Hieber and Audrey Albright



May 21, 2023

Regular Offering	\$2,383.00
Plate Offering	60.00
Sunday School Offering	13.00
Flower Memorials / Tributes	30.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$2,486.00



ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:
+In Honor of Harper Owen Jones' birthday by Sally Bjornstad.
+In Honor of our Saint Mark's family.



CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, MAY 29, IN OBSERVANCE OF MEMORIAL DAY. THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL REOPEN ON TUESDAY, MAY 30, 9 AM.

Summer Hospitality!



The summer months are once again upon us and with them come long, lazy days, swimming, camping, s'mores, suntans, and all sorts of fun, summery things. At St. Mark's, **summer also means a single service beginning at 9:30 a.m. (Summer Schedule starts June 4, 2023)**

We look forward to sharing hospitality with each other after the 9:30 service, and ask that you please consider signing up to share a few treats ~ nothing fancy is required! Perhaps find a friend to help make the load just a bit lighter. Sign-up sheets may be found in the "Hospitality Binder" on the "Hospitality Table" in the Narthex. We look forward to spending a little time together on these Summer Sunday mornings. Thank you for helping!



READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY? Faith Formation has temporarily "moved some books" from our church library to the Front Lounge in order to make them more accessible. Stop by the Front Lounge and take a look!



Monday, May 29, - Sunday, June 4, 2023

Monday, May 29 Memorial Day Church Office Closed
Tuesday, May 30 Pastor Vacation (May 30 through June 4, 2023)
Wednesday, May 31
Thursday, June 1
Friday, June 2
Saturday, June 3
Sunday, June 4

Holy Communion 9:30 a.m. Summer Schedule Starts

Trinity Sunday

Ray Huff (Synod Authorized Lay Worship Leader) will preach and preside on Sunday June 4.

BIRTHDAYS

Owen Gair	May 30	Evelyn Bastian	June 2
Grace Arner	June 3	Edward Barone	June 3
Sean Jensen	June 3		

ANNIVERSARY

Pamela and Michael Jensen May 30

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

None scheduled this week

If there is anything you would like to include in the “This Week at Our Church” please let the administrative assistant, Joe Baur, know at jbaur@stmarkswilliamsport.org

+ When you or a family member are ill, have a crisis of faith, or have a personal concern of which you wish to make the pastor aware, please contact him directly by church office telephone (570-323-4619) or email (bvasev@stmarkswilliamsport.org). Do not assume the pastor will know of your need any other way.

+ When you or a loved one has a change of address, telephone number or email, please contact the church office at 570-323-4619 or stmarks@stmarkswilliamsport.org. Please direct your intentions whether or not to share this information with our church family.

COMMEMORATIONS



Jiri Tranovský, hymnwriter, died 1637

Monday, May 29, 2023

Tranovský is considered to be the father of Slovak hymnody as well as an important reformer of the Slavic church. He translated the Augsburg Confession (the basis of Lutheran teachings) and published a collection of Slovak hymns.



Visit of Mary to Elizabeth

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

This festival marks the occasion when Mary, pregnant with Jesus, visited her cousin Elizabeth who was herself pregnant with John the Baptizer. Elizabeth pronounced Mary "blessed among women," and Mary responded with the song called the Magnificat.



Justin, martyr at Rome, died around 165

Thursday, June 1, 2023

Born of pagan parents, Justin was influenced by an elderly Christian in Ephesus. He became a teacher of philosophy and the Christian faith. Jailed for practicing an unauthorized religion, he refused to renounce his faith and was beheaded.



The Martyrs of Uganda, died 1886

Saturday, June 3, 2023

On June 3, 1886, thirty-two young men were burned to death for refusing to renounce Christianity. The confident manner in which these Christians went to their deaths contributed to a much stronger Christian presence in Uganda.



John XXIII, Bishop of Rome, died 1963

Saturday, June 3, 2023

When elected pope, the former Angelo Roncalli was expected to be a short-term caretaker. He showed great spirit, though, and convened the Second Vatican Council which helped bring great changes to the Roman Catholic Church.