

## **Fifth Sunday of Easter**



**Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
3411 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, DC 20032**



***Rev. Gregory Shaffer,  
Pastor***

**Saturday Vigil Mass:** 4:30 pm  
**Sunday Mass:** 10:00 am  
**Daily Mass:** Monday thru Saturday 12:10 pm  
**Eucharistic Adoration:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:00 - 12:00 noon  
**Confessions:** Saturday 3:30 - 4:15 pm, Wednesday 11:00 – 12:00 noon  
or anytime by appointment

**Address:** 3401 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, S.E.  
Washington, DC 20032

**Office Hours:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
9:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Tuesday 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

**Pastor:** Father Greg Shaffer  
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**Pope Francis  
Outreach Center :** Food Pantry and Clothing Room

**Director:** Ms. Mildred Brown

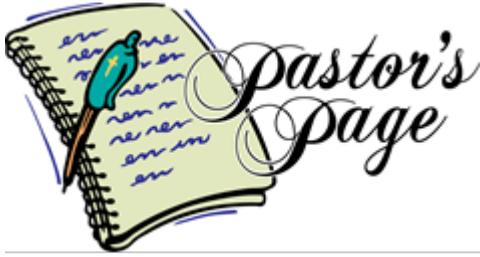
**Assistant Director** Ms. Brenda Hare

**Hours of Operation:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
9:00 am - 12:00 noon

**Phone:** 202-561-5941 Fax 202-561-4024

**Website:** [www.assumptionchurchdc.org/outreach](http://www.assumptionchurchdc.org/outreach)

**Email** [outreach@assumptiondc.org](mailto:outreach@assumptiondc.org)



**Fifth Sunday of Easter  
May 14, 2017**

I'm sorry that I'm not able to say this in person, but Happy Mother's Day to all of our mothers, grandmothers, spiritual mothers, and godmothers! The beauty of May reflects the beauty of our mothers, especially Mary, the Mother of God and our Heavenly Mother. As I am still away, I wanted to give you a thoughtful reflection by Ms. Leela Ramdeen at [rsocialjusticett.org](http://rsocialjusticett.org). What is beautiful about her thoughts is that they include mothers in all types of situations and advise us too especially "not forget...single women who act as mothers to others". Mother's Day is an enormously popular day and rightly so. But, it can be tough for some who she mentions as well as those who have experienced abortion, miscarriage, or infertility. As she says, "we will see Him in the faces of each of these women; we will reach out in compassion to assist them; we will serve them."

Everything we have in life is from God through our mothers. Thank you, Mothers!

Everything we have in Christ is from God through Mary. Thank you, Mary!

May you know the peace of the risen Christ,

Fr Greg

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Happy Mother's Day to all mothers!

Motherhood is a gift from God and one of the most blessed of vocations. Let us truly celebrate, affirm and honor our mothers – not only today, but throughout the year...

For those of you whose mothers are still alive, express your thanks and appreciation to her each day; work on your relationship with her and cherish your time together as our lives are shorter than we think. If your mother has passed on, try to honor her memory by living your life in a way that will make her proud.

Archbishop Joseph Harris has urged us all to adopt a Missionary Project. Reach out to homeless women, struggling single mothers, elderly women in homes for the aged or those lying in hospitals with no one to visit them. Let us not forget the widows, grandmothers, guardians and the single women who act as mothers to others. If we truly love God, we will see Him in the faces of each of these women; we will reach out in compassion to assist them; we will serve them.

Zenit reports that on May 1 Pope Francis reflected on two traits of Christian identity, saying that Christianity is marked by its concrete presence in history and its focus on service. He said: "Jesus washes the feet of the disciples, inviting them to do as He has done: to serve.

Christian identity is service, not selfishness... We are called to service. Being Christian is not about appearance, or even about social conduct, it's not a little make-up for the soul, because it should be a little more beautiful. To be Christian is to do what Jesus did: serve!"

Pope Francis invited us to ask ourselves, "In my heart, what more can I do? Do I have other people serve me; do I use others, the community, the parish, my family, my friends? Or do I serve, am I at the service of others?"

Service is not only about charity, but includes acting as advocates – lobbying our politicians to ensure that our economy is working for our mothers, e.g. in the areas of healthcare, education, housing, employment, social services, and poverty reduction. If we are to become servant leaders, we must not turn a blind eye to domestic violence

that is destroying the lives of so many of our women – and men. The AEC Bishops rightly focused on this issue during their recent meeting. Let us help our men to be better fathers and husbands/partners.

Family life is under threat globally. Let's strengthen family life by helping to nurture responsible parenting and create conditions that will allow families to flourish. And employers, play your part also by recognizing and planning for the diverse needs of women as mothers, e.g. by providing workplace crèches, better maternity/paternity entitlements, and a living wage. At a national level, we can serve our mothers by advocating for the development of good economic and social policies to promote the integral human development of mothers.

Mothers, we love you. Turn to Our Lady to intercede with her Son for you as you journey on.

Let us remember the words Pope Francis uttered during the celebration of the Mass of the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God in January 2014:

“Our pilgrimage of faith has been inseparably linked to Mary ever since Jesus, dying on the Cross, gave her to us as our Mother, saying, ‘Behold your Mother!’ (Jn 19:27). These words serve as a testament, bequeathing to the world a Mother. From that moment on, the Mother of God also became our Mother...Mary becomes in this way a source of hope and true joy!

The Mother of the Redeemer goes before us and continually strengthens us in faith, in our vocation and in our mission...To her let us entrust our journey of faith, the desires of our heart, our needs and the needs of the whole world, especially of those who hunger and thirst for justice and peace, and for God.”

The strength of our nation depends, to a large part, on the strength of our mothers. We thank you, Lord, for the gift of our remarkable mothers, and for their steadfast love.

**Healing Prayers for:** George Thomas, James Anthony Murphy, Queen Bundy, Earnest Ingram, Jr. John Howard, Juanita Watkins, Iris Best, Helena Haley, Dorothy Hollis, Jean Sultzer, Gisele Best, Lezeal Rorie, Corinne Bachiller, Lillian Taylor, Calvin Best, Tracy Stachitis, Veronica Brown, Deacon McBurnett Smith, Marsha Carlson-Meyers, Dr. Dee Jones Adams, Barry Robella, Father Dan Vitz, Eleonora Best, Jane Rhyne, Faye Lyon, Abby Fargo, Mildred Selmar, Heather Wooten-Rollins, Brenda Newman, Malek Elloit, Kennedy Wood, Courtney Barlow, Christine Jones, Benjamin Davis, Ronald Horton, Madison McKenzie, Jamil McKenzie, Samuel James Guadalupe, Shawntrice Moore, Bridget Barlow, Veronica Harris, Teresa Wilkinson, Sherri Ewing, Pauline Haggins, Dorothy Sylvester, Tiffany Jacobs, Darlene Jones, Paul Higgins, Audrey Saunders, Pauline Johnson, June Murphy **Our Homebound Parishioners:** Mary Cooke, Sybil Depeazer, Louvenia Gray, Fr. Charles Green, Pauline Johnson, Yvonne Samuel, Audrey Saunders, Joan Shields, Elizabeth Smith, Viola Walker

### **Prayer to the Mother of the Lord for all Mothers**

Mary, on this day when we honor all mothers, we turn to you. We thank the Lord whom you serve for the great gift of motherhood. Never has it been known that anyone who sought your intercession was left unaided by grace. Dear Mother, thank you for your "Yes" to the invitation of the angel which brought heaven to earth and changed human history. You opened yourself to God's word and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

Dear mother, intercede for all of our mothers. Ask your Divine Son to give them the grace of surrendered love so that they could join with you in giving their own "Fiat." May they find daily strength to say yes to the call to the sacrificial love- the very heart of the vocation of motherhood. May their love and witness be a source of great inspiration for all of us called to follow your Son.

On this Mother's day, Mother of the Word Incarnate, pray for us who have recourse to you... In the Name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit Amen



### **READINGS FOR THEWEEK**

Monday: Acts 14:5-18 Jn 14:21-26

Tuesday: Acts 14:19-28 Jn 14:27-31a

Wednesday: Acts 15:1-6 Jn 15:1-8

Thursday: Acts 15:7-21 Jn 15:9-11

Friday: Acts 15:22-31 Jn 15:12-17

Saturday: Acts 16:1-10 Jn 15:18-21

**Next Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 1 Pt 3:15-18 Jn 14:15-21**

*Mother's Day Spiritual Remembrance  
In Honor/ In Memory*

Barnes, Constance Z.

Batts, Ellen B.

Brown, Brown

Carlson, Nina

Galloway, Edgelene

Hare, Earline

Haverkos, Alice

Hunt, Madeline

Jarman, Margaret

Jeffries, Ruth F.

King-Smith Mothers

Mickel, Willie Mae

Moultrie, Harriet S.

Pastore, Eileen

Pastore, Loren Zina

Pierce, Mildred

Ruffin, Ebony

Sherrod, Nikea

Sherrod, Richelle

Sherrod, Sandra



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY  
*...a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised.*

*Proverbs 31:30*



# Announcements

## **MAY BIRTHDAYS**

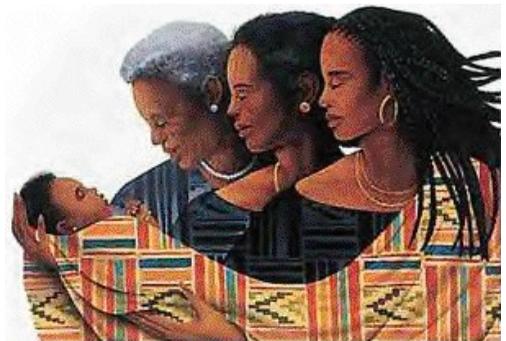
Richelle Sherrod	9 <sup>th</sup>
Kathleen Holly	10 <sup>th</sup>
Maritza St. Hill	11 <sup>th</sup>
Shelah Gray	15 <sup>th</sup>
Theresa Jones	15 <sup>th</sup>
Yvonne Warren	18 <sup>th</sup>
Felechia Johnson	19 <sup>th</sup>
Brenda Ross	21 <sup>st</sup>
Verstill Day	21 <sup>st</sup>
Albert Shackelford	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Mary F. James	26 <sup>th</sup>
Willie Poston Jr.	28 <sup>th</sup>



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## ***PRAYER FOR ALL MOTHERS***

*O almighty and eternal God, Lord of both the living and the dead, Your tender mercy embraces all men foreknown to be Yours by faith and a good life. Through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary our Mother, and of all the saints, grant Your merciful pardon to all mothers for whom we pray, whether they still are living in this world or have departed from this flesh into the world to come. Especially, dear Lord, grant the requests I now make of You for my own beloved mother*



May 14, 2017