



**May 7, 2023**

## **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

### **Collection April 30, 2023**

Regular Collection	\$4094.72
Catholic Virginian	10.00
Attendance	57

**May 14, 2023**

Lector: *Chad Owen*  
Commentator: *Madelyn Owen*  
Ushers: *Hathaway/Stanley*

### **Readings for May 14, 2023**

Reading 1	Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
Reading 2	1 Peter 3:15-18
Gospel	John 14:15-21

**Information about St. Edwards-** Daily readings, the bulletin, homilies, and other information can be found on our webpage at:

<https://stedwardpulaski.org>

**Prayer List** -Tim Kimbleton, Carol Luttrell, John Balconi, Brenda Lessard, Jody Riffey, Megan Talbert, Rosanna Vallo, Linda McCann, Stephen Petrowski, Christine Scarpinato, Michael Linkous, Jim Trowbridge, Orlando LoMascolo, Rommy LoMascolo, Anna LoMascolo, Julie Vega, Jerry Stanley, Bill Vest, Caroline Jewell, Jim Hopkins, Raegan Ray, Alexandria Hayes, Marianne McGriffin, Georgia Snell English, Margaret McLawhorn, Carol Canty, Kenneth Martin, Father Bernie, Clyde Bennett, Doug Waldrop, Mark Newman, Carlo LoMascolo, Shannon Yates, and Jessi Saunders.

**Let the Stanleys know if you have additions or deletions**

**Peter's Pause-** The adult discussion/scripture study group, Peter's Pause, will meet this Tuesday, May 2 at 7:00. All are welcome.

**New Church Directory-** Make sure you get your copy of the new picture directory today if you haven't already. Your name is on the front.

**Graduates-**We have 2 members of St. Edward's who will be graduating from NRCC this next week. Congratulations to Case Grube and to Caleb Harriman! Case will continue his education at Old Dominion University, and Caleb will be at the University of Tampa. So proud of these two guys. Best of luck and come back to see us often.

### **May Birthdays**

Chad Owen	May 6
<b>Ginny Ash</b>	<b>May 11</b>
Mariah Taylor	May 19
Kathy Smith	May 26
Norma Klima	May 27

**Happy Birthday**

### **May Anniversaries**

Rebecca & Walt Harriman	May 1
Jennifer & Rick Grube	May 6
John Loftis & Mary Phillips	May 6
<b>Carla &amp; Kenneth Martin</b>	<b>May 11</b>
Lisa & Guenter Schlottmann	May 19
Chad & Leigh Ann Owen	May 20

**Happy Anniversary**

## Fifth Week of Easter

### Daily Prayer This Week

We can hold the words of Jesus in our hearts all week. As we do, we will discover their attractiveness and invitation. We will also encounter resistance in ourselves and in others.

It takes practice to stay focused in the background of our daily life. We all have years of habit to overcome. However, we can practice letting this consoling message of Jesus find a place in our conscious awareness at various points in our day, whether it is in the shower, while getting dressed, or simply whenever we are on our way from one place to another. Sometimes it will take a conscious effort to let these thoughts replace the thoughts that are there already. In the background of our day is where our worries reside. It's where we carry anxiety and stress. Sometimes it is where we carry on imaginary conversations with others or "replay" past conversations. Often a song or piece of music just replays over and over.

This is a great week to get in touch with our deepening desires and to let my conversations with Jesus grow in friendship. The easiest way to do this is to simply say simple ordinary things -- the very way I would say them to a close friend. Some examples might offer words that will inspire our own conversation with the Lord who loves us.

*"Jesus, every time I hear you say I don't have to let my heart be troubled, I pause. I sense you are pointing to the 'troubles' I'm working through today. You're asking me to let go of them, aren't you? I'd like to, Jesus, but some of this is big stuff. It scares me. I know some of what I need to do, but I put it off. I know what I'm avoiding. It helps to focus on your love for me this week. I guess what I really need to ask you for today is that you let me trust you more completely. It is really nice these days to feel that you are so close to me, and that I'm not alone today."*

*"I haven't been very connected to you, Jesus. This conversation is difficult because it reminds me the embarrassing stuff I keep doing - even though right now, I'm ashamed to talk about it in your presence. Please forgive me. Some of this I want to bring to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, so that I can be re-connected with you again. I need a 'turning point,' Jesus. Thank you for being there."*

*"Good night, Jesus. Thank you for today. Let me put everything aside tonight. I know you will be with me all day tomorrow."*

The wonderful story of the early church continues this week in Acts of the Apostles. We read of Paul and Barnabas preaching the good news to Gentiles. A major shift occurs after much discussion among the apostles and they pray for guidance: should Gentiles become Jews before becoming Christians? Peter declared that Jews and Gentiles are both "saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus."

The weekday gospels continue with John's nuanced words reminding us again not to be troubled or afraid, but to remain in the love of Jesus. It is that message that we pray with this week as we continue our Easter celebration, filled with the joy of hearing Jesus tell us, "It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you."