



Rev. Fr. Mark J. Niznik - Pastor
Masses: Saturdays 4pm
Sundays 8am & 11am
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Mother's Day History

Contrary to popular belief, Mother's Day was not conceived and fine-tuned in the boardroom of Hallmark. The earliest tributes to mothers date back to the annual spring festival the Greeks dedicated to Rhea, the mother of many deities, and to the offerings ancient Romans made to their Great Mother of Gods, Cybele. Christians celebrated this festival on the fourth Sunday in Lent in honor of Mary, mother of Christ. In England this holiday was expanded to include all mothers and was called Mothering Sunday.



In the United States, Mother's Day started nearly 150 years ago, when Anna Jarvis, an Appalachian homemaker, organized a day to raise awareness of poor health conditions in her community, a cause she believed would be best advocated by mothers. She called it "Mother's Work Day."



Fifteen years later, Julia Ward Howe, a Boston poet, pacifist, suffragist, and author of the lyrics to the "Battle Hymn of the Republic," organized a day encouraging mothers to rally for peace, since she believed they bore the loss of human life more harshly than anyone else.

In 1905 when Anna Jarvis died, her daughter, also named Anna, began a campaign to memorialize the life work of her mother. Legend has it that young Anna remembered a Sunday school lesson that her mother gave in which she said, "I hope and pray that someone, sometime, will found a memorial mother's day. There are many days for men, but none for mothers."

Anna began to lobby prominent businessmen like John Wannamaker, and politicians including Presidents Taft and Roosevelt to support her campaign to create a special day to honor mothers. At one of the first services organized to celebrate Anna's mother in 1908, at her church in West Virginia, Anna handed out her mother's favorite flower, the white carnation. Five years later, the House of Representatives adopted a resolution calling for officials of the federal government to wear white carnations on Mother's Day. In 1914 Anna's hard work paid off when Woodrow Wilson signed a bill recognizing Mother's Day as a national holiday.

At first, people observed Mother's Day by attending church, writing letters to their mothers, and eventually, by sending cards, presents, and flowers. With the increasing gift-giving activity associated with Mother's Day, Anna Jarvis became enraged. She believed that the day's sentiment was being sacrificed at the expense of greed and profit. In 1923 she filed a lawsuit to stop a Mother's Day festival, and was even arrested for disturbing the peace at a convention selling carnations for a war mother's group. Before her death in 1948, Jarvis is said to have confessed that she regretted ever starting the mother's day tradition.

Despite Jarvis's misgivings, Mother's Day has flourished in the United States. In fact, the second Sunday of May has become the most popular day of the year to dine out, and telephone lines record their highest traffic, as sons and daughters everywhere take advantage of this day to honor and to express appreciation of their mothers.

Taken from the website of: <http://mothers-day.123holiday.net>

BIBLE

BASIC
INFORMATION
BEFORE
LEAVING
EARTH

YMS of R Men's Group

The next YMS of R meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 17th at 9:00am at Cal's Restaurant in Belleview. All men from the parish are encouraged to attend. If you are new to the parish, this is a good opportunity for you to meet some of the men of our parish.



St. Paul Choir

We have a fantastic, spirited choir here at St. Paul's, under the direction of Charley Stoykovich. We are still looking for singers for our Saturday and Sunday Masses. Anyone interested in joining the choir can meet here at the church on Tuesdays at 6:00pm for practice.



Ladies Adoration Society

Thank you Jesus for your never ending guidance and we praise you for our great success.

May is the month we honor our Blessed Mother. Her color is blue and her statue, in a place of honor, is beneath her son, our Lord Jesus, to the right of the Altar as well as in the Vestibule of the church.

On behalf of our Adoration Society, we wish all Mothers a Blessed and Happy Mother's Day.

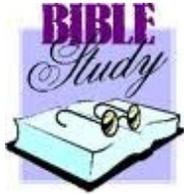
In His Service,

Dori Canfield, ANS President



"To Our Lady"

*Lovely Lady dressed in blue, teach me how to pray!
 God was just your little boy, tell me what to say!
 Did you lift him up sometimes, gently, on your knee?
 Did you sing to him the way Mother does to me?
 Did you hold his hand at night?
 Did you ever try telling stories of the world?
 Oh! And did he cry?
 Do you really think he cares if I tell him things - little things that happen?
 And do the Angels' wings make a noise?
 And can he hear me if I speak low?
 Does he understand me now?
 Tell me for you know, lovely lady dressed in blue, teach me how to pray!
 God was just your little boy. And you know the way.*



Father Mark's bible study class on Thursday mornings is now on a summer break and will return in the fall. The return date will be announce at a later time.



Golf League



Our church golf league meets each Tuesday of every month at 8:30am at Spruce Creek Del Webb in Summerfield. Golfers are paired into groups of 4 players in scramble format. If any men or women are interested in joining our fun league, please contact Susan Hilt at 352-307-2129. Bring your friends. All are welcome. Sign up sheets will be posted in the social hall.



Birthdays

1st Diane Hollinsworth
Fernando Varela

7th Sue Dunfee

11th Wanda Dunphy

13th Sandy Elstad

17th Vinnie Meidhof

18th Walter Arruda

19th Travis Thorpe

20th Shirley Whalen

23rd Danny Liss
Dotty Middleton
Dick Pierce
Linda Thompson

24th Louis Torresin

28th Don Ditto
Cindy Yackowski

29th Carol Andrews

30th Peg Brosig

31st Valda Niznik



Backpack Program

Our mainstay charitable program provides local homeless school children with personal care/hygiene items all year round. Please drop off items anytime on the rectory porch or at church on Sundays in the bins at the back of the church.



There is also a need for socks and underwear for younger children.



Anniversaries

5th Frank & Rita Carbone
Bill & Dotty Smith

6th Bernie & Marlene Kress

9th John & Linda Enot

15th Joseph & Helen Berdechowski

18th Gary & Diane Hollinsworth

20th Dick & Jan Nowak

25th Vic & Wanda Dunphy

* Members: if your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please inform Debbie Niznik.

Sunday Coupon Flyers



Debbie Niznik wants to thank all of you for bringing in your Sunday coupon flyers each week. Debbie has been on a mission to get as many free or next to free items for our "Clean Kids" Back Pack Program and she needs your help. If you receive the Sunday newspaper, and you just throw out the Sunday coupon flyers or you just cut out a few coupons and throw the rest of the flyer away, **STOP** and bring the flyers and put them in the second plastic bin drawer labeled Sunday Coupon Flyers inside of the church. Thank you.

Spaghetti Dinners



Come and bring your friends to our weekly all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinners on Fridays from 4:00-7:00pm. Dinners include salad, roll & butter, and your choice of a free beverage - either coffee, iced tea, or lemonade. Adults are just \$6.00 and Children 12yrs and younger are FREE. There are also homemade desserts from our Ladies ANS Society for only \$1.00 each. If you are bringing a large group, please contact Bob Canfield at 352-454-8673. Please let him know how many are in your party and what time you will arrive, and he will reserve your table(s) for you.

Words for Thought

Go outside, to the fields, enjoy nature and the sunshine, go out and try to recapture happiness in yourself and in God. Think of all the beauty that's still left in and around you and be happy!

Anne Frank

Finding Peace in the Face of Loss Support Group

Loss is never easy and somehow the effects of losses are more keenly apparent throughout the holiday season. Loss has many faces - the passing of a loved one, the loved one who is still present but incapacitated through trauma or disease, personal changes in your own ability to participate in life as you once did due to illness or other circumstances, and loss of family or loved one's presence due to moving, imprisonment, or addictions. It is also present in the feeling of helplessness with the loss of employment and the subsequent impact and anxiety of the financial stresses that ensue. These are just a few of the circumstances in life that leaves us struggling to find the peace and strength to move forward.

In response to folks desiring better understanding and to help foster a more peaceful spirit, Father Mark has approved the establishment of a support group here at St. Paul's. The next meeting for the *Finding Peace in the Face of Loss Support Group* will meet inside the social hall on Saturday, May 6th following the 10:00am Anointing of the Sick & Intentions for Departed Mass.

Sunday Breakfast Buffet



Come join our Sunday morning Breakfast Buffet in our social hall from 9am to 1pm. Enjoy a spectacular all-you-can-eat buffet filled with lots of different breakfast items to select. Pancakes will be made to order at the kitchen window and the buffet includes: French toast, farm fresh scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, corned beef hash, home fries, fresh fruit, bagels & cream cheese, cereals, along with Complimentary coffee, milk and iced tea. All for only \$10! Children 9 & under are only \$5! Now, here's the other really cool part: If you are a customer at our Friday night spaghetti dinner, you will receive a \$2 discount coupon to that Sunday's Breakfast Buffet!