# St. JOHN PAUL II Pastorate



#### STEWARDSHIP CORNER

"Peter was distressed that Jesus had said to him a third time, 'Do you love me?' and he said to him, 'Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'"

JOHN 21:17

Discern how God is calling you to use your time in prayer, your talent in charitable works and your treasure to assist those who in need. Remember that giving is an act of worship and helps advance the mission of our parish and greater Church.

# HOPE:

The virtue infused by sanctifying grace that gives assurance of salvation, moves the individual to place one's faith in God and brings one to perform morally good actions.

For Christians, Jesus Christ is the focus of hope, and His resurrection is the sign that Christian hope is not futile or empty. Traditionally, hope was individualistic and oriented toward future life, but in recent decades, a more communal and practical approach has been given to Christian Hope. Hope is seen as the ultimate source of faith and charity. It causes Christians to show charity to the poor because they are the most esteemed by the One who conquered death. Christ gives hope in our struggle against hatred, sin and evil because He was victorious by His fidelity and obedience to the Father. Christian hope is thus a more profound hope that is that of other world- views. It challenges atheism, secularism, and rationalism to provide hope in our struggle against hatred, evil and death. Catholicism does not explain away the domain of evil, which holds sway in our world, but it provides hope for overcoming and escaping it through the grace and saving actions of Jesus Christ.

("Hope," Our Sunday Visitor Catholic Encyclopedia, page 484

This Christian Hope, according to Romans 5:5, does not disappoint because the love of Christ has been poured into our hearts. Let us therefore resist the temptation to desolation and hold on to our hope in the risen Lord.

#### Feast of the Ascension

Traditionally, Ascension is celebrated on Ascension Thursday which this year will be Thursday, May 9th, 2024. However, in the United States, this feast was moved to the Sunday following Ascension Thursday, by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.



# This year, it will fall on Sunday, May 12, 2024.

For those who would like to do their Pentecost Novena, it is important to start from the day after Ascension Thursday. I hope this helps to clarify things.

## **May Devotion**

May is the month of Mary. As a practice, I would encourage all to say the rosary everyday this month. This will be our collective challenge for the month.



If your family is not in the habit of reciting the rosary every day or frequently, for a start just do one decade (ten Hail Marys) every day and recite the Memorare at the end.

### The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy, hear and answer me. Amen. St. Bernard

Have a Nice Week! Fr. Paul

