

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 6, 2007

# St. Veronica

CONGREGATION ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE

353 E. NORWICH ST. • MILWAUKEE, WI 53207

**WELCOME TO THE  
CATHOLIC FAITH  
COMMUNITY OF**

**ST. VERONICA PARISH!**

If you are visiting St. Veronica from another parish or if you are new to the area, we are very pleased that you have chosen to worship with us in our faith community. We welcome you to become a member of our parish family. Please call the parish office if you are interested in membership.

"I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Jn 13:34-35

**Parish Council Members 2006-2007**

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Paul Klajbor, 482-4499  
Mike Zilinski, 482-4448  
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I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem,  
coming down out of heaven from God,  
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

REVELATION 21:2

FIFTH SUNDAY OF

EASTER

## A Message from Father Mark

*“If one is unable to connect with one’s breath how can he/she connect with God?”*

It was delightful to have had the opportunity to take my sabbatical in Japan. This was certainly a rich experience that will have lasting effects upon me. Upon reflection, we could talk endlessly about the cherry blossoms; speak tirelessly about the ritual behind the tea ceremony; or share the secrets of the technique of Japanese calligraphy. But that would not touch upon what has changed me the most. This reflection will focus on one of three major topics of a spiritual nature that I encountered while living and sharing with my Japanese host families, my stay in the temple and my marvelous time with the School Sisters of Notre Dame. Future articles will touch the other two topics. Many of these insights are not easy to put into words let alone allow us to fully digest their substance and meaning. However, while the following observations are limited in scope they certainly hold something for all of us to ponder.



Japan is an amazing country steeped in a rich heritage, with a beautiful culture, and religious traditions intermingling and embracing one another despite their diversity. It is not uncommon to find a person who has embraced both Buddhism and Christianity, among the people of Japan. One might ask the question, “How can this be? How can one accept both faiths - aren’t they different?”

When making the decision to take this sabbatical, my assumption was that the time would be spent reading, relaxing and discovering Buddhism from a practical, theoretical perspective. Through my encounters with numerous individuals along the journey, I discovered a diversity of beliefs and traditions that far exceeded what my previous understanding could have ever imagined coexisted in the world. For example, one family with whom I stayed in Kyoto mentioned that they considered themselves Buddhist but also practiced Catholicism. Curious, I asked how they reconcile the differences between the two beliefs. The answer was totally unexpected. The gentlemen said, “Unless I am able to connect with my breath, I cannot possibly connect with God.”

To understand this simple phrase, one needs to actually step out of the theoretical perspective, the “head center” and move inward to one’s “heart center” or simply, move inside of oneself, to really understand the world around us. Our minds or our “head centers” tend to express our understanding of the world from the perspective of black and white, good or bad, right or wrong. When we stay in our “head center” we simply want to find the explanation to our deepest questions about life so that we can make sense of our situation from a theoretical perspective. What he was trying to reveal was that if we embrace and accept who we are and the present moment, we can be one with nature and God just like accepting our breath.

There isn’t a separation, or distinction, or right or wrong stance; it simply exists, just as when we breathe in and out we are in existence. How this is or why is not necessary to know. That is true with the acceptance of both Buddhism and Catholicism. They co-exist with no right or wrong, good or bad connection. They are both regarded as important therefore everyone is more or less open to both. The Japanese are not interested in drawing lines of distinction. That is when I discovered that I needed to stop thinking about everything from a theoretical perspective. One of the School Sisters of Notre Dame explained to me that if God wants you to know something you will discover this knowledge inside, not in your head but rather in your heart. She said, “You think too much! Can’t you simply accept certain ideas and notions without having to explain everything? Do you always have to use words to describe what you are thinking or feeling that denote a distinction?” The Japanese can live without explanations to certain circumstances because they honor and accept the fact that they are connected to nature and interact with God without having to put into words what they believe. They live in their heart center and feel the movements of God without explanation. This was truly a deep insight for my journey.

The time in the temple was very fruitful. My stay was a mix of very intense and growth filled moments and difficult, challenging moments of being in silence. The challenge was to sit for two hours in silence clearing thoughts and ideas that would cross the mind. The task was to simply be quiet and allow God the opportunity to speak without my voice being heard. Many times, thoughts intruded; my mind racing from one thought to the next, daydreaming about people and places. Some days were totally frustrating because I could not keep still. The Buddhist monk who was instructing me said, “You westerners spend too much time in your head thinking and worrying about thoughts you have no control over. When will you ever learn to embrace the present moment? Be one with nature, be one with yourself, be one with your breath. Rather you daydream always about something in your future or what you hope to achieve or what you wish for and you lose sight of what you have now and where you are at the present moment. You are always searching for more and never satisfied with what you have. If I tell you to do something, why do you need an explanation of every detail? Why can’t you discover for yourself what the task holds for you?”

He was right. I questioned and wondered what everything meant. While working in the garden I was always thinking. I was in my head most of the time. The breakthrough came when in my own frustration and anguish of trying to figure out what all this meant, I found myself purely exhausted almost without anything to consider. I sat on the ground and did nothing. It happened quietly and peacefully as if a door opened and I fell into this new space or place that I knew about but rarely visited. No thought, no reaction, simply sitting and breathing without anything to consider. That was it. For a moment, a fleeting second, I was engrossed in the moment and not in any thought or consideration. I didn’t need to think or feel; I needed to be quiet. The more you practice letting go of certain feelings or beliefs the sooner you find yourself confronting God in the quietness of your spirit. You find yourself in your heart. *Next week we will look at conversation.*

# Human Concerns



## Mother's Day Rose Sale

Roses will be sold after all Masses next Saturday and Sunday, May 12-13, for \$2 each. The proceeds will be used by the Wisconsin Right to Life-Milwaukee Chapter for educational purposes and to support pregnancy help centers. Remember Mom, Grandma, or your Godmother, with a rose, the symbol of life.

## Health Topic Sunday May 19th and 20th After All Masses

### American Stroke Month and Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month

**Stroke is the third leading cause of death in America.** Someone suffers a stroke every 45 seconds, and nearly 168,000 die annually. Stroke is also a leading cause of severe, long-term disability as it can cause paralysis, vision problems, memory loss and speech/language problems.

Despite these staggering statistics, only 2% of American adults name stroke as the disease or health condition concerning them most, and 50% of adults do not believe they are even at risk for stroke. Though strokes are commonly thought to only happen to older people, the truth is that a stroke can happen to people of all ages. Learn more about the risk factors and how you can prevent a stroke.

1 in 4 Americans suffer from asthma or allergies in the United States. That is 60 million people, many of them children. Asthma is characterized by inflammation of the air passages resulting in the temporary narrowing of the airways that transport air from the nose and mouth to the lungs. Allergy is characterized by an overreaction of the human body to a foreign protein substance ("allergen") that is eaten, breathed into the lungs, injected or touched. Sounds scary? It can be. Learn more about the signs and symptoms of asthma and allergies and how to decrease or eliminate from your lives to live healthier and longer.



## Open Door Free Health Clinic

The Open Door Free Clinic, for the uninsured and underinsured, will be open Wednesday, May 9. The clinic is located inside Unity Lutheran Church, 1025 E. Oklahoma Ave. Sign-in time is 5:45 pm and appointments with doctors begin at 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm.

## Prayer Network

In your prayers this week, please remember all the requests called in to our Prayer Network or written in our parish Book of Intercessions. We average **48 prayer requests** a week.

Please continue to pray for world peace and for the safety of our military, also for all educators, for all civic and religious leaders, for vocations to the priesthood, the diaconate, and religious life. The general intention recommended by Pope Benedict XVI for MAY is: (Attentiveness to God) That, like the Virgin Mary, all Christians may be guided by the Word of God and remain attentive to the signs of the Lord in their own lives. The mission intention is: (Seminary Teachers) That, in mission territories, there may be good and enlightened teachers in the major seminaries and institutions of consecrated life. [www.apostlesofprayer.org](http://www.apostlesofprayer.org). "As a society we are witnessing the fruits of the abortion mentality. Is it any wonder that we have created a culture of violence? We need to repudiate all forms of violence. Jesus offered the way — demanding but fruitful. Prayer does change hearts. The current culture of violence will yield only to that spiritual force that first touches and then changes individual hearts. Prayer does work and it must be our instrument of change." Homily of Washington Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl, Pro-Life Mass, National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C. Jan. 22, 2007. ([www.usccb.org/prolife](http://www.usccb.org/prolife))

TIME	CAPTAIN	PHONE
7-9 am	Jeanette Kuechenmeister	481-6224
9-12 pm	Dorothy Butzler	481-3608
12pm-3 pm	Lucille Devine	529-8570
3-5 pm	Cecilia Bonczkowski	744-9406
5-7 pm	Helen Rewolinski	744-4139

## Lectionary Link: Breaking Open the Word of God

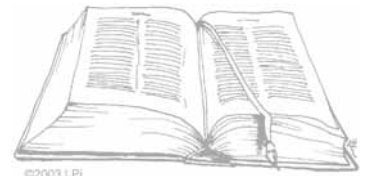
This week we celebrate the Fifth Sunday of Easter. The virtue of Love is at the heart of the Jesus Movement, Christianity. We who call ourselves followers of Christ are admonished to love one another as Christ loved us. This is not an easy love, but one which challenges us to love even in the face of mistreatment, misunderstanding, and hatred. We cannot pick and choose whom and when to love. The sign to the whole world can be seen in how well we love each other.

*Adult: Who is most difficult for you to love?*

*Child: How can you show your love for other people this week?*

## Readings for the Week of May 6

Sunday: Acts 14:21-27/Rv 21:1-5a/Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35  
 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 15:1-2, 22-29/Rv 21:10-14, 22-23/Jn 14:23-29



## Dear Parishioners of St. Veronica

I thank you all for your kindness this past year as you have invited me into your parish community. Because you have graciously helped me on my journey toward priesthood, I would like to invite you to the ordination.

Ordination to the priesthood will be Friday, May 18th at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, 812 N. Jackson Street, at 7:00pm. I will also come and celebrate Mass with you at St. Veronica on a date to be determined. Watch for more details!

*Pax et Bonum*  
*Rev. Mr. Sean Granger*



St. Thomas Aquinas Academy just finished putting on their play, *Alice in Wonderland*. (picture above) What a wonderful experience. Mrs. DiMeo, one of our primary grade teachers, selects and directs the students in this play. She does have other teachers help—Mrs. Charney, Mrs. Antholine, Mrs. Brooks,

Mrs. Colvin and Ms. Fera—along with many parents. The true stars of the show belong to our students. They help to make the scenery, to organize and to work on sound and lighting. And then there are our actors. We have students as young as third grade who sing solos and act with aplomb. I congratulate my teachers, parents and students for a job well done! *Mary Stallmann, Principal*

#### Parish Council Nominations

St. Veronica is looking for parishioners to join the parish council. These are exciting times for the parish community and the people are the very lifeblood of the parish. We are looking for individuals who are energetic and looking to help lead the parish community. If you would like to join council or know someone who you think would make an excellent councilor, please give your name or the name of the person you would like to nominate to the parish office at 482-2920 or Paul Klajbor Parish Council Member at 405-2674.

#### Saint Thomas Aquinas School Board

St. Veronica is looking for a new member to be the liaison to the parish council. It is a two year commitment. The position will require two meetings per month. Anyone interested should contact our parish council chairperson, John Jeffers at 427-4069.

#### St. Thomas Aquinas School Families Grant for Tuition Aid

Once again we will be offering a grant to school families to help offset the cost of tuition. Grants will be awarded based on applicant's commitment to Catholic education, financial need, academic motivation and demonstrated parish support through time, talents and treasure. Applications are available in the parish office or you can request an electronic version through [carlajager@saintveronica.org](mailto:carlajager@saintveronica.org). If you are interested, please complete and return the application by May 15. Recipients will be notified by June 1. You must be a St. Veronica parishioner, in good standing for one year, to qualify.



#### Welcome Home Celebration for Fr. Mark!

Come welcome Fr. Mark back from his Sabbatical May 6 after the 10:30 am Mass and enjoy a Pasta Luncheon with beverages. Free will donations accepted. Parishioners are invited to bring desserts to go with the lunch. (Bring desserts to Johnson Hall before the 10:30 Mass.)



#### May, the Month of Mary

The Catholic Church honors Mary, the Blessed Virgin with special veneration. This special devotion differs essentially from the adoration which is given and reserved only for the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Blessed Trinity. "This devotion fits into the only worship that is rightly called "Christian," because it takes its origin and effectiveness from Christ, finds its complete expression in Christ, and leads through Christ in the Spirit to the Father." (*Marialis Cultus, Pope Paul VI, February 2, 1974*). Mary holds a singular place in the Plan of Salvation.

Through the Incarnation, Jesus and Mary became indissolubly joined; He became one of us in all things but sin. The Council of Ephesus (431) clarified the Church's understanding of the role of Mary as the Mother of God, *Theotokos*.

During the month of May, we will look more closely at some of the traditions and prayers which have developed. [This Sunday, May 6 the First Communicants participate in a Mary Crowning during the 10:30 Mass.](#)

#### Crowning of Mary

The church has traditionally held since the Second Council of Nicea in 787, that it is fitting to venerate images of Jesus, Mary, and the saints. In the official *Order of Crowning an Image of the Blessed Virgin Mary*, published by the United States Catholic Bishops, the Bishops write, "It is especially from the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century that in the West the practice became widespread for the faithful, both religious and laity, to crown images of the Blessed Virgin. The popes not only endorsed this devout custom but "on many occasions, either personally or through bishop-delegates, carried out the coronation of Marian images." The symbol of Mary as queen follows from her perfect devotion to her Son, Jesus. Through her steadfast love she has earned the "crown of righteousness" (2 Timothy 4:8) that has been promised to all who follow Christ. Even now, Mary continues to watch over us her children the church. She is our mother, too.

## ~Mass Intentions~

### Sunday, May 6 Fifth Sunday of Easter

- 8:30 am For the Parishioners  
 10:30 am † Michael Spiegel (Wife and Children)  
 † Dorothy Spellacy (Brooks Family)  
 † Joseph Schmidt (Friend)

### Monday, May 7

- 8:15 am Communion Service

### Tuesday, May 8

- 6:30 pm † Patricia Russart (Family)  
 † Ronald Brzozowy (Friends & Family)  
 † Ed Ostrenga (A. & D. Ostrenga)

### Wednesday, May 9

- 8:15 am † Patricia Russart (Family)

### Thursday, May 10 Fr. Damien de Veuster

- 8:15 am † Cornelia Wisnewski (E. Wisniewski)

### Friday, May 11

- 8:15 am Virgie Budziszewski (Friends)

### Saturday, May 12

- 4:30 pm Kat and Paul Wagner (Family)  
 † Robert Reik (Family)  
 † Frank Adamski (Sister)  
 † Patricia Russart (R. & A. Russart)

### Sunday, May 13 Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 8:30 am For the Parishioners  
 10:30 am † Ed and Regina Ostrenga (D. & V. Leshok)  
 † Elizabeth Huberty (Family)  
 † Alyce Budnik (Family)  
 Special Intentions

## Parish Meetings and Events

### Sunday, May 6

- |          |   |              |
|----------|---|--------------|
| 9:30 am  | RCIA                                      | Assisi       |
| 11:30 am | Welcome Home Celebration<br>for Fr. Mark! | Johnson Hall |
| 7 pm     | Men's Bible Study                         | POMR         |

### Monday, May 7

- |      |                      |             |
|------|----------------------|-------------|
| 6 pm | St. Vincent de Paul  | POMR        |
| 5 pm | Building and Grounds | Hospitality |

### Tuesday, May 8

- |         |                   |        |
|---------|-------------------|--------|
| 5:15 pm | Adult Bible Study | POMR   |
| 7:05 pm | Parish Council    | Assisi |
| 7:30 pm | AA                | Seton  |

### Wednesday, May 9

- |       |                  |                |
|-------|------------------|----------------|
| 11 am | AA               | Seton          |
| 7 pm  | Prayer & Worship | Rel Ed. Center |

### Thursday, May 10

- |      |                    |              |
|------|--------------------|--------------|
| 9 am | Resurrection Choir | Church       |
| 1 pm | Community Elders   | Johnson Hall |
| 7 pm | Adult Choir        | Church       |

### Sunday, May 13

- |         |                   |       |
|---------|-------------------|-------|
| 9:30 am | RCIA              | Seton |
| 7 pm    | Men's Bible Study | POMR  |

## Offices:

St. Veronica Parish Office (414) 482-2920  
 353 E. Norwich St. 53207 Hours: M-F 8 am-4:00 pm  
 1st Sun. of Month 9:00 am-12:00 pm  
 Fax: (414) 482-3025

Website: [www.saintveronica.org](http://www.saintveronica.org)

parishoffice@saintveronica.org

Johnson Hall 414-482-2920, ext. 132

**Christian Formation Office** (414) 481-0777

**Very Rev. Mark Payne, Pastor** (262) 370-1845 (cell)  
 (414)482-2920, ext. 111 [markpayne@saintveronica.org](mailto:markpayne@saintveronica.org)

**Deacon Rob Chalhoub, Administrator**,482-2920, ext 113  
[RobChalhoub@saintveronica.org](mailto:RobChalhoub@saintveronica.org)

**Deacon Emeritus John Dziennik**

**John Albinger, Technology**, 482-2920, ext. 114  
[johnalbinger@saintveronica.org](mailto:johnalbinger@saintveronica.org)

**Karen Bushman, Director of Elementary Formation**,  
 481-0777, ext. 117 [karenbushman@saintveronica.org](mailto:karenbushman@saintveronica.org)

**Jeffrey Montoya, UAC, Youth Minister**,  
 481-0777, ext. 135 [jeffmontoya@saintveronica.org](mailto:jeffmontoya@saintveronica.org)

**Kate Sponholz, Director of Music**, 482-2920,ext. 127  
[katesponholz@saintveronica.org](mailto:katesponholz@saintveronica.org)

**Mike Stahler, Maintenance Engineer**, 482-2920, ext. 115  
[mikestahler@saintveronica.org](mailto:mikestahler@saintveronica.org)

**Gerry Cofta, Parish Secretary**,482-2920, ext. 110  
[gerrycofta@saintveronica.org](mailto:gerrycofta@saintveronica.org)

**Carla Jager, Administrative Assist**, 481-0777,ext. 140  
[carlajager@saintveronica.org](mailto:carlajager@saintveronica.org)

**Char Zeller, Office Assistant**, 482-2920, ext 110  
[charzeller@saintveronica.org](mailto:charzeller@saintveronica.org)

**St. Thomas Aquinas Academy**

**Principal Mary Stallmann**

(414) 744-1214 341 E. Norwich St.

[www.thomasaquinasacademy.com](http://www.thomasaquinasacademy.com)

## Sacraments

**Baptisms:** The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the first and third Sundays of the month. Contact the parish office to pick up registration materials. Parents are required to attend one Baptismal preparation class.

**Marriage:** We celebrate the Sacrament of Marriage for only our registered parish members. Please phone the parish office one year in advance to schedule a meeting with the priest, before you book other arrangements.

**Anointing of the Sick/Pastoral Visits:** We are always willing to stop by your home or hospital. Please notify us when you or a family member is in need of a visit. The hospitals do not always notify us. Anointing of the Sick will occur after every weekend Mass on the 2nd Sunday of each month.

**Reconciliation:** 1st and 3rd Saturdays at 3:30 pm before the 4:30 pm Mass and every 3rd Thursday following the 8:15 am Mass.



## Family of the Home

This website offers resources for Catholic families. Monthly topics, prayer resources, and activities are featured. This month the topic is “*Talking with Children When the Talking Gets Tough*”. The article gives age appropriate advice for parents, teachers and other caring adults on how to talk to kids when disastrous events occur. Some suggestions include talking about it even if you want to believe the kids don’t know, be available and approachable, and reassure young people that you are there to keep them safe. There are also reflections on Motherhood and activities for the family to do together. Go to [www.familyandchurch.org](http://www.familyandchurch.org)

### Email Cards for

#### Armed Services Members

Many parishioners have family or friends now serving overseas. A card from back home brings a little joy to these men and women. If you would like to send an email card, go to [www.letsaythanks.com](http://www.letsaythanks.com) and choose from a large selection of “homemade” greetings. Especially during this month which includes Mother’s Day, let us remember all of the moms who are away from their families because they are serving in the armed forces.



### Great American Clean Up

Humboldt Park Watch is participating in the Great American Clean Up.

This event will be held on Saturday, May 12 from 9 am-Noon at the park pavilion. Gloves and trash bags will be provided.

Free tickets to the Milwaukee County Zoo or a Water Park will be given to all who participate in this program.



The Parish Community of St. Veronica wishes to express its sympathy and promise of remembrance in prayer to the families of *James Ploszay* and *Louise Vietenhaus*. Our hope and prayer is that they are now enjoying that fullness of happiness and peace in their heavenly home.

## Youth Ministry

Please join us in congratulating Paul Buchel, a St. Veronica Parish youth for his performance as Jason in the Pius XI High School production of Disney’s “High School Musical.” This highly energetic and popular musical’s simple message is that we all can do and be more when we adopt a positive attitude and open ourselves up to change. Paul played to four sold-out performances at Milwaukee’s historic Pabst Theater on the weekend of April 27-29.



Saturday, April 28, 2007 First Communion Celebration

### Catholic Kids Corner

#### LOVE LETTERS TO JESUS

During the First Eucharist mini-retreats, our children wrote a special letter to Jesus. The final group of children received Communion for the first time on April 28th. We will continue to feature excerpts from those letters each week until Pentecost.

*Dear Jesus, I want to thank you for my mom, dad, Kayla, grandma, and my dog. Olivia M.*

*Dear Jesus, At the retreat we watched a video about a girl and her grandpa. I enjoyed it. Thank you for making me a nice person. Jared S.*

*Dear Jesus I enjoyed hearing the story of the Little Red Hen and the first Passover. I also liked the art project. Thank you for making me alive. Sarah H.*

*Dear Jesus, Thank you for my mom and dad and church. Albert D.*

#### Fun Facts for Faithful Kids

In today’s Gospel, Jesus tells us we must love one another. Sometimes that can be very hard, especially if they are

really mean. Say a prayer for those who make you feel bad.

Do you like to receive mail the old fashioned way – in your home mailbox? Today we can send email, text messages, and messages over the phone. On May 6, 1840, we celebrate the birthday of the postage stamp. The first stamp was issued in England. Why not send a card or letter to someone far away. They probably like to get mail, too.

Leprosy is a very serious disease. Because people did not know how to treat it, lepers were sent away from other people. In Hawaii, people were sent to the island of Molokai where there were no houses, hospitals or doctors. On May 10, 1873, Blessed Fr. Damien de Veuster arrived at the leper colony and brought them Mass, other sacraments, and medical treatment. Fr. Damien also helped to build cottages and a small clinic. Fr. Damien died of leprosy while helping the others. Blessed Fr. Damien is the spiritual patron of those with leprosy, HIV/AIDS and social outcasts.

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