

# Fourth Sunday after Easter

## Masses and Intentions for the Week

### Sunday, April 20 White

Fourth Sunday after Easter, *II Class*

7:30 AM Don and Marian Cisle +

10:30 AM Pro populo

### Monday, April 21 White

St. Anselm, Bishop, *III Class*

12:00 PM Frances Idler +

A Benedictine monk, St. Anselm governed the monastery at Bec and was elevated to the Archbishopric of Canterbury. He died in 1109 and is called the Father of Scholastic Theology.

### Tuesday, April 22 Red

SS. Soter and Caius, Popes/Martyrs, *III Class*

7:00 PM Mark and Millie Simmermeyer

### Wednesday, April 23 Red

St. George, Martyr, *IV Class*

12:00 PM John Vilkoski

Honored by the Church as a soldier-martyr, St. George is the patron of Christian armies.

### Thursday, April 24 Red

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Martyr, *III Class*

7:00 AM Mark Walker

A Capuchin, St. Fidelis was sent by the Holy See to Switzerland in order to convert the inhabitants from Protestantism. His great influence made him enemies; he was stabbed to death on April 24, 1622.

### Friday, April 25 Red

St. Mark the Evangelist, *II Class*

12:00 PM Gloria Carroll +

7:00 PM Annie Oelker

St. Peter was a disciple of the Apostles from the outset and soon became their companion in their mission. He appears to have been associated especially with St. Peter; he acted as his interpreter and wrote down his teaching. Christian iconography represents St. Mark with a lion, occasioned by the fact that he begins his Gospel by depicting St. John the Baptist as the "voice of one crying in the wilderness."

### Saturday, April 26 Red

SS. Cletus & Marcellinus, Popes/Martyrs, *III Class*

7:15 AM Sr. Diane Denke

St. Cletus was the second successor to St. Peter, governing the Church from 76-88. St. Marcellinus was Pope from 296-304, suffering martyrdom under the persecution of Diocletian.

### Sunday, April 27 White

Fifth Sunday after Easter, *II Class*

7:30 AM Donald Farwick +

10:30 AM Pro Populo

## Easter Duty Reminder

Holy Mother Church attaches a *grave obligation* for all Catholics of age to make a confession of all mortal sins (since the last worthy confession) and receive Holy Communion at least once during the Easter season, which lasts until Trinity Sunday.

## Evening of Recollection - Thursday

The next evening of recollection is scheduled for this Thursday, April 24, from 7-8:30 PM. Confession will be available both before and during the recollection.

## Second Collection - Next Sunday

There will be a second collection next Sunday, April 27, for Catholic Home Missions which goes in support of domestic mission efforts in Appalachia, the Rockies, and the Deep South.

## Library Books

Please make sure that any library materials are returned in a timely fashion; generally these should be signed out no longer than a month but could certainly be renewed. New titles and materials are periodically added to the collection.

## Nota Bene!

Please note that the Married Men's Solidarity will not meet this Saturday evening due to the wedding and also that the Mothers' Solidarity will not meet on Saturday, May 3, on account of First Communion rehearsal.

## Please Keep in Your Prayers...

Archbishop Buechlein; Patricia Wycislo; Rosie Rolfes; Ted Knight; Neal Miller Family; Tim Hindenberger; Tom Peter; Joseph Shake; Virginia Mendel; Teresa Hall; Andrew Voelker (Iraq); closure of Planned Parenthood in Bloomington; Donald Farwick +; James Peter +; Ed Lachman +; Shirley Heppner +; Martha Deller +; Mary Deegan +; Dottie Voegele +; Larry Hill, Jr. +; Msgr. Bernard Schmitz +

## Contributions – Thank You!

April 13	\$1818.00	
Window Fund	\$36801.24	(80%)

## Calendar of Events

April 20	First Communion Class
April 23	Choir/Girls' & Boys' Groups
April 24	Evening of Recollection
April 25	High School Classes
May 1	Ascension Day (Holyday)
May 2/3	First Friday/First Saturday
May 4	First Communion

## A Final Thought...

Mental prayer, we might say, is *total* prayer where the whole of us and not only part of us is consciously and deliberately conversing with God and His friends in glory. You may do other things thoughtlessly or casually - you do not pray mentally without realizing what you are about. We might compare it with the intense conversation we sometime have with some person about matters that deeply concern either or both of us. There is such a thing as being lost in conversation or of forgetting the passage of time, so intent can we be on what we are saying to the other person and what he or she is saying to us. Again the depth of this intimacy in mental prayer depends mainly on God's grace. But it also depends on us, so much so that we can safely say if we do not more often pray this way the fault is our own. Why our fault? Because being lost in conversation with God in prayer has to be merited. This means it has to be worked at; it means making the effort to concentrate on whom we are speaking with when we pray rather than on ourselves as doing the praying even when, as so often happens, the object of our prayer is our own grave needs.

Who needs mental prayer? There is an easy answer to the question: everyone needs it. Men, women, and children need it, the young and the old, the rich and the poor, people in every profession and situation. They need it not only occasionally or only when faced with some overwhelming decision or crisis. They need it always - daily. Depending on their lot in life they may need it often during the day.

In order to make more clear this universal need for mental prayer, [we must remember the Church] urging all to a universal call to holiness. What are we talking about? We are talking about mental prayer as the indispensable means of reaching sanctity in all the major states of life to which God calls those whom He has sealed in Baptism and signed with the confession of the true Faith. No two states in life are quite the same. The needs of one are not the needs of another and the responsibilities of one are not precisely those of another.

One of the pities of our age is that so many people are trying to live other people's lives. Call it role-playing or personality-substitution or dissatisfaction with one's state

in life. Whatever the name, it is a phenomenon that should be given more attention that it is getting with all sorts of shifting of life's goals until Western society is writhing with a massive confusion which this instability has created. It is almost as there were no states in life. Everybody seems to want to be someone else. So many women behaving as if they wanted to be men; men as though they were women; husbands as though they were not married; wives as though they had no husbands or families; priests as though they were businessmen, politicians, or social activists; and religious as though they were secular men and women in the world. Consequently, when we speak of everyone needing mental prayer this means that everyone needs a certain amount of regular reflection in God's presence and in conversation with Him in order to be what God wants him or her to be.

[...] All the responsibilities in the states of life recognized by the Church must be sustained by assiduous mental prayer. Mental prayer is necessary even to recognize one's vocation as distinctive from that of others. It is necessary to maintain one's commitment to a definite choice, once and for all made. It is necessary to remain faithful to one's special calling from the Lord. How few - or better, how none - who enter on a state of life could possibly foresee all contingencies that life will bring. Mental prayer is necessary to resist the temptation to discouragement or needless change, forgetting what St. Paul tells us, that the particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. To resist the temptation to change from what I have been to what I might be - I need prayer.

There is no problem so grave in any state of life that cannot be resolved through humble mental prayer.. But there is also no problem so small in every vocation that it cannot become an impassible jungle in the absence of mental prayer. Mole hills become mountains or, as I watch the ants working along the pathway, ant hills become Rockies, unless through daily mental prayer we keep our perspective.

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Fr. John Hardon, SJ, *Theology of Prayer*