



## The Other Side of Love

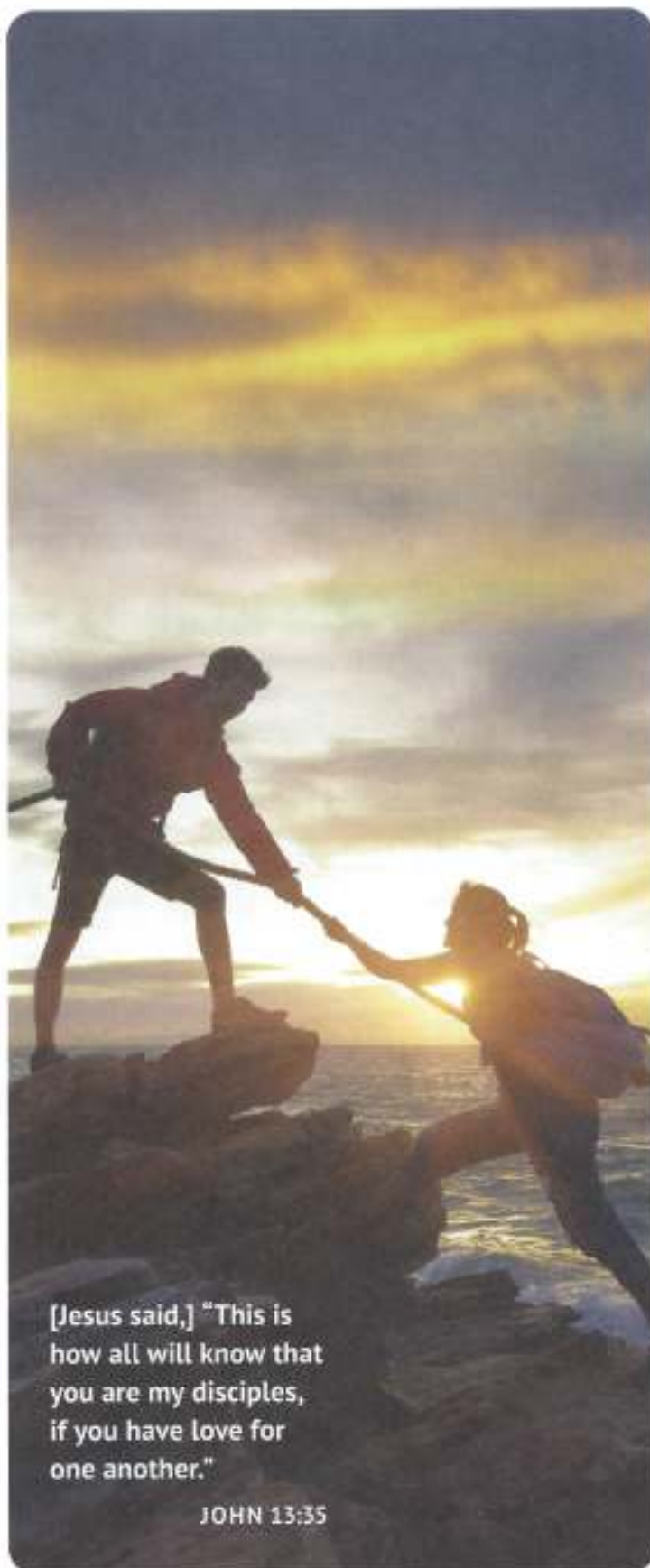
FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**W**e have an instinct to love; this is something woven into the foundation of human life. It's also a godly instinct, for anything embedded into the human spirit with such intensity must surely be of God. In fact, it is how God is creating a new heaven and a new earth, thereby making all things new as is written in the Book of Revelation. So intense is that inclination to love, we read in the first letter of John that God is love.

While our culture tends to romanticize love, the reality is that, all too often, if we are seriously committed to loving someone, it can also be a lonely effort. Love is not always romantic or satisfying. At times, it can be demanding and even harsh. One day, when I was meeting with an engaged couple in preparation for their marriage, I asked them, as I often do, for their definition of love. Usually, couples are tongue-tied when I ask that question. They know they're in love, and, to them, that seems to be enough. This time, however, the young groom-to-be did not hesitate. He said that love is caring for someone even when they are unlovable—an insightful definition, for it is precisely during such times that we need someone's love. It is the weakest moments of life that are in need of rebuilding, the loneliest moments of life that are in need of someone reaching out a hand, and the darkest moments of life that are in need of light. When that happens, creation is made new. ●

### Reflect

**What is my definition of love?  
How do I live it?**



[Jesus said,] "This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

JOHN 13:35

## St. Barbara Parish

302 Chestnut Street  
Dalzell IL 61320  
Phone 815-894-2006  
Email: StBarbaraParish2@outlook.com  
Website: www.bureaucatholic.org



### St. Thomas More Site

302 Chestnut Street  
Dalzell IL

### Adoration Room at STM Site

Open Daily from 9 am-6 pm

#### Confession Info

Saturday morning, alternating  
between STM Site & HT Site  
in the Confessional between  
10:30 am-11:15am



### Holy Trinity Site

#### Parish Office

212 S Main Street  
PO BOX 159  
Cherry IL

#### Church Office Info

Pastor: Father Thaddeus Tran

Pastoral Assistant: Julie Hollinger

Parish Secretary: Melissa Pasillas Email: Melissahtc@outlook.com

Office Hours at HT: Tuesday-Friday 9am-1pm

**Emergency Number: 779-248-2164**



E-giving is a great way to continue supporting your church, especially during the busy summer months. To sign up, visiting our website, "bureaucatholic.org"; scroll down on home page to "Please Consider Our Online Giving" on the right side. If you need help, contact the church office.

### St. Barbara Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of May 19, 2025

|           |      |         |          |                           |
|-----------|------|---------|----------|---------------------------|
| Monday    | 5/19 |         |          | † No Mass                 |
| Tuesday   | 5/20 | 9:00 am | STM Site | † Geraldine Sondgeroth    |
| Wednesday | 5/21 | 5:30 pm | HT Site  | † Bob & Marlene Greskiwcz |
| Thursday  | 5/22 | 9:00 am | HT Site  | † Alan Hahn               |
| Friday    | 5/23 | 9:00 am | STM Site | † Phil Maggio             |

### St. Barbara Mass Intentions for the weekend of May 24-25, 2025

|          |      |         |                      |                           |
|----------|------|---------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Saturday | 5/24 | 4:00 pm | ST. Thomas More Site | † Lois (Castello) Glasser |
| Sunday   | 5/25 | 9:00 am | Holy Trinity Site    | † For the Parishioners    |



## WHY DID JESUS CALL HIS COMMANDMENT OF LOVE "NEW"?

Before his passion, our Lord gives a 'New Commandment.' This is a commandment of love, which would characterize the new community He is establishing, which is the Church. Jesus says, love one another (not as yourself, which is already admonished in the Old Testament, but as He, Jesus, loves you). This begs the question, how has Jesus loved us? And the response would be: "Look at the Cross." His dying and rising are proof of His love. The cross demonstrates the extent to which He would go for love of us.



But what is "new" about the commandment Jesus gives? Love had been preached even before the coming of Jesus. What then was He proposing that was new? In a culture where love was extended primarily to insiders, members of one's family or community, and to friends, the newness of Jesus' command consists in its scope. Jesus charges His disciples to model their love after His own example. His love embraces all, the deserving and undeserving alike. Jesus died for the whole of humanity, and His love is for all of God's creation. Jesus makes love the marker for identifying His disciples. He says, "by this will all people know you are my disciples, if you love one another (John 13:35). As disciples of Christ, we too are called to set no boundaries to our love. We witness to our Christianity by the love we have for one another. And this love must never be understood only as an emotion, as emotions are fickle and temporary. Our love must be marked by a commitment to the good.

When we love one another just as Jesus loves us, willing the good of one another, the world would be a more peaceful and loving one. There would be no need for wars and the senseless violence that characterize political discourse today. We would not seek to annihilate people who disagree with us, or who hold different opinions than we do as though they were our enemies. We would be charitable in how we approach anyone, seeing that we have the obligation to love as Christ did. (excerpted from littleflowerchurch.org by Fr. Julius )

### Church Announcements

**Parishioners**, please be reminded that Sunday collection checks should be written out to Holy Trinity until further notice; also don't forget to fill out a registration form for the New Parish St. Barbara.

#### **Cemetery Announcements:**

It's time for cemetery spring cleanup. Please be reminded to remove old flowers from grave site by the end of May.

We like to also remind all parishioners who have received the cemetery appeal letter to please read and consider donating to this worthy cause.

#### **Food Pantry Volunteer opportunities**

Please contact Hall Twp. Food Pantry at 815-663-2085 if you are interested in these positions listed below:

shipment assistance: second Mondays and Tuesdays of the month between 8am-11am

pantry stocking assistance: Wednesdays 8:30am-12pm

food rescuer: Mondays 10am-pick up from Pizza Hut/ Red Lobster

#### **Latest Offering's**

May 11th Weekend

St. Barbara Parish

Total Collections: \$2174.00

HT site- \$1294.00

STM site - \$880.00



#### **Confessions**

Confession will be

Sat. May 24th

10:30 am-11:15 am

St. Thomas More Site

# Dear Padre,

***I have gay/homosexual friends and coworkers. How do I respond appropriately when they announce they got married or are engaged, as we Catholics do not believe in same-sex marriage?***

Context and perspective are always useful and necessary. It is also important to remember that your beliefs can often conflict with another person's belief system. It does not change the truth of what you believe, but it can be sobering. When you offer someone congratulations, it does not mean you are giving your approval or acceptance. It just means you are engaging in respectful social protocol. Let's assume that most people are mature enough to understand the difference between acceptance and protocol. Confusion arises when some people insist that you cannot be "both/and," as they reduce everything to "either/or." With this kind of perspective, life is a battle to be fought rather than an opportunity to live a life of graciousness and thanksgiving that invites us to celebrate. Be respectful. Be gentle. Be loving. Be compassionate. Each of those virtues speak much louder than judgment, rigidity, and a posture that proclaims, "I am better than you." ●



PHOTOGRAPH BY PHOTOLIA

**Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / Dear Padre.org**

## **Do you have a question for the Padre?**

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



### **A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

***We have heard what Jesus told his disciples before leaving this world.... He told us what it means to be a Christian: "Even as I have loved you, so you must love one another" (Jn 13:34). This is the legacy that Christ bequeathed to us, the ultimate criterion for discerning whether or not we are truly his disciples.***

**HOMILY, ROME, MAY 15, 2022**

#### **Monday**

May 19  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 14:5-18  
Jn 14:21-26

#### **Tuesday**

May 20  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 14:19-28  
Jn 14:27-31a

#### **Wednesday**

May 21  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 15:1-6  
Jn 15:1-8

#### **Thursday**

May 22  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 15:7-21  
Jn 15:9-11

#### **Friday**

May 23  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 15:22-31  
Jn 15:12-17

#### **Saturday**

May 24  
Easter Weekday  
Acts 16:1-10  
Jn 15:18-21

#### **Sunday**

May 25  
Sixth Sunday of Easter  
Acts 15:1-2, 22-29  
Rv 21:10-14, 22-23  
Jn 14:23-29