

FOR THE WEEKEND OF MAY 16-17, 2026a

Ecclesiastical Provinces of Boston, Hartford, New York, Omaha, Philadelphia
Seventh Sunday of Easter

Gospel Reading

Jn 17:1-11a

When Jesus had said this, he raised his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you,

just as you gave him authority over all people, so that he may give eternal life to all you gave him.

Now this is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ.

I glorified you on earth by accomplishing the work that you gave me to do.

Now glorify me, Father, with you, with the glory that I had with you before the world began.

"I revealed your name to those whom you gave me out of the world. They belonged to you, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.

Now they know that everything you gave me is from you,

because the words you gave to me I have given to them, and they accepted them and truly understood that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me.

I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for the ones you have given me, because they are yours,

and everything of mine is yours and everything of yours is mine, and I have been glorified in them.

And now I will no longer be in the world, but they are in the world, while I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one just as we are.

Intercession

May we continue to glorify God on earth by accomplishing the work entrusted to us – proclaiming Christ and building up the Body of Christ through ministries supported by the Catholic Ministry Appeal.

Copy for Bulletin Announcement

Goodbyes are a natural part of life. We say goodbye to our parents and the family we grew up with when we marry and begin families of our own. We say goodbye to our children when we drop them off at college. We say goodbye to family, friends, and coworkers when we are transferred to our company's office in another state. And we say the ultimate goodbye when someone we love dies.

Hopefully, we are prepared for these goodbyes. Our parents modeled the love and sacrifice inherent in marriage and child rearing. We have equipped our children with the skills necessary to enter adulthood. We have touched the lives of those around us so that physical distance doesn't end our relationships. And we have loved fully so that death gives us peace instead of regret.

So, too, does Jesus prepare his beloved disciples for the eventual end of his earthly existence. He has spent his entire ministry teaching them that he is from the Father, and that all he says originates with the Father. Now that the disciples believe, they are ready to continue Christ's mission in his absence. By supporting the Catholic Ministry Appeal, we help continue Christ's mission in the world—just as the disciples did—ensuring His love and truth reach those in need.

Copy for Pulpit Announcement

On the eve of his Passion, Jesus prayed not only for his disciples, but for the unity of all who will follow him. He entrusts his mission to those who remain, asking the Father to hold them together in love and truth: "Holy Father, keep them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one just as we are."

Unity is not sameness. It is a deep connection formed in Christ, in whom hearts and minds are joined in a single purpose across distances, differences, and time. Jesus shows us that the Church is more than an institution – it is a living body of believers who are called to reflect the perfect unity between the Father and the Son. Through this unity, the world will come to know God.

We are called to live this unity today in belief and in action. One important way we express this shared mission is through the Catholic Ministry Appeal, which brings our individual efforts together to support the broader work of the Church. Please prayerfully consider joining this shared mission with your support.



Social Media Post/Content

Photo: Bright sky, perhaps with the outlines of birds flying

Header: "Now this is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God." – John 17:3

Copy: Our one true happiness is God. Through the Catholic Ministry Appeal, we can help others find the happiness that comes from knowing Our Lord.