

Wednesday, May 15, 2024 // The Rev. Ben Robertson

## MAYCEMBER

I recently learned a new word: Maycember. Perhaps you have heard it too. It is a proper noun, but also an adjective, framing the month of May as as busy as December, but without the carols, twinkling lights, and presents under the tree. Perhaps Pentecost should step up its game? Imagining gathering around the Pentecost bonfire, singing hymns of praise to the Holy Spirit, and then exchanging gifts in honor of the Church's birthday. No? Sounds nice, but I have to leave - my kid's recital is in fifteen minutes and I am not sure where to park.

May is a very busy month and many of the occasions we celebrate are joyous and meaningful, including Mother's Day, graduations, end of the year events, etc. For the Church, this season is equally busy and can include baptisms, Pentecost, youth Sunday, and weddings. Plus, the Triple Crown (this Louisville native couldn't leave that out)! So, especially if children are part of our lives, we are inevitably stressed, exhausted, and/or just running around trying to honor and enjoy these important moments.

During a wedding rehearsal, just before we conclude and everyone rushes off to dinner, I try to encourage the couple and their families to find time over the next couple of days to savor the moment. Similarly, we should do so throughout Maycember. Pause, put down the phone or camera, and just be as a toast is offered, he receives his diploma, or she walks down the aisle. And remember that God is present. God has blessed the person or milestone you honor, and God's has blessed you to be a witness and walk alongside them. These moments are fleeting, photos and videos are fun, but being in the moment can last a lifetime.

God is with us, in May, in December, and in these people that crowd our busy lives. I am thankful for all of them.