St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

610

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live."

- Jn 11:25

Ext. 213



St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy

8200 N. Wayne Road, Westland, Michigan 48185 Phone: 734-425-4421

Email: office@stmarycooj.org

Fax: 734-425-0650

Rectory Phone: (weekends & emergencies

only please) **734-421-6544**

Website: www.stmarycooj.org
St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy

Office Hours

Monday to Thursday: 8:00am-4:00pm Friday: 8:00am-Noon

Mass Schedule

MON, THURS & FRI 8:30 am

WED 12:00 Noon

SAT 4:30 pm

SUN 8:00 am
10:00 am
12:00 Noon

Confession

Saturdays: 3:30pm

Baptisms

Please call our Parish Office during regular business hours. Parish membership and preparation class required.

Marriage

Arrangements must be made by registered parishioner at least six months in advance to allow sufficient time for instructions and preparation.

Anointing of Sick and Ministry to Homebound

Our pastor is available to visit upon request.

RCIA

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
For those interested in becoming a full member of the Catholic Church. Please call the office.

Hearing Devices are available. Please see our music director in the choir area.

Bulletin Articles due by 9 am on Monday (5 days prior to publication). Submitted bulletin content is subject to approval.

DIRECTORY

PASTOR Fr. Shafique Masih

pastor@stmarycooj.org

PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

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DEACON Jim Hensel (Deacon Emeritus)

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Roberta Troher
Doris Urbanski
Cathy West
Nicole Zapinski
Joseph Zasa
Nova Zboyan

If there are any names that can be <u>removed</u> from our Prayer List, please let us know by calling 734-425-4421

READINGS for the week of March 30

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [4ab]/Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]/Jn 10:31-42

READINGS for April 5 Palm Sunday of the Lord

1st Reading:Isaiah 50:4-72nd Reading:Phil 2:6-11Resp. Psalm:My God, my God, why Gospel:MT 26:14-27:66

have you abandoned me?

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CPT Joey Saunders, U.S. Marines; Joseph David Onadia, U.S. Navy;
PVT Marcus Rodriguez, U.S. Army

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TEN GUIDEPOSTS FOR CHRISTIANS

IN THE TIME OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

INTRODUCTION

In my service as spiritual father, I earnestly desire to offer support and wise counsel in order to help us cope with the stress that comes with living through this pandemic. In my Pastoral Letter Unleash the Gospel I cast what I wanted to say into the form of "Guide Posts," and that has seemed to helpful. So I've decided to use that format here.

1. No Time Is Without Its Grace

Christ's death and rising is a grace that should shape every day of a Christian's life and above all in these days. In this time of trial we are called to seize the grace of showing ourselves, by the power of the Spirit of Christ, to be, like Christ, filled with faith in God's care for us.

2. This Is The Lent God Our Father Wants Us to Have

This second Guide Post is a sort of corollary to n. 1. God in Christ is the Lord of history. He's in charge. His providential plan for our salvation and happiness can not be defeated. If he has permitted us to have to be for a while without our public celebration of the Holy Eucharist and our usual Lenten devotions, his Spirit offers us other means to prepare ourselves for Holy Week and the Paschal Triduum

3. It's Still About Unleashing The Gospel

Right now all of us, especially us pastors and our co-workers, are focused on responding to the Corona pandemic. Yes, but that doesn't mean that "unleashing the Gospel" has been abandoned. Quite the contrary. We still must be about evangelization. That's always our mission. This is a providential time for us to witness to our sure confidence in Jesus as Lord of history, to manifest to the world that we face this challenge with un shakable trust that the Lord will sustain us.

4. Now Is The Hour Of The Domestic Church

At Synod 16 the Holy Spirit said clearly that the Christian family, as the "Domestic Church," has to be at the center of the New Evangelization. In these days when our large public gatherings for prayer and catechesis are suspended, the Domestic Church is all the more clearly "ground zero" for our response. Now it falls squarely on families to make their homes places to hear the Word of God, and to offer him praise, especially in acts of Spiritual Communion and entrustment to the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

5. Holiness Works With Science

We must resist any idea that there's some sort of divorce between our cooperating with public health officials to mitigate the spread of the virus and our complete trust in God's power to protect us. This Guide Post is a variation on the axiom that "Nature builds on Grace." Our whole-hearted cooperation with the civil authorities involve act of Christian virtue: acts of justice in doing our part to protect the common good, acts of charity because our motive is love for God and neighbor.

6. We're Called To Accompany Our Neighbors

I've "cribbed" this "Guide Post" and the one that follows the pastoral wisdom of Pope Francis. Each of us, especially in our f families, faces fears about what the future holds for us as the spread of the virus unfolds. But we're not alone in this. Some of us will become seriously ill, and undoubtedly there will be fatalities – along with all the sufferings that follow for those with loved ones who become ill. Many of us face the prospect of economic troubles, the loss of jobs, the collapse of businesses, with all the trials these misfortunes entail. In this time of troubles we must support one another, not only with sympathy but with ready acts of practical kindness, that is, works of mercy.

7. We're Obliged To Care For Those "On The Peripheries"

As I've said, here, too, I'm echoing a theme dear to the heart of Pope Francis. The pains caused by the pandemic will fall particularly hard on the poor, the elderly and the chronically ill. We Christians have a particular duty to care for them. One simple but much needed work of mercy will be to stay in touch (by phone?) with the elderly who are quarantined. We should be sure that "social distancing" doesn't result in losing "spiritual closeness." Not least should we remember that many of the inconveniences we experience in order to mitigate the spread of the virus are aimed at protecting the vulnerable. With that in mind it should be easier to be at peace with these inconveniences.

8. Read God's Word Through The Lens Of This Time

The Psalmist says, "O that today you would hear his voice" (Ps 95: 7). As you read any passage of Sacred Scripture that is part of your prayer during these days, listen especially for how in his word God is speaking directly to you about how to find the grace he offers in this time. (See n. 1 above). He wants to speak to your heart: to offer his wisdom about what this crisis means, his guidance about how to respond, his assurance that all things work for good for those who love [him]" (Rm 8: 28). He is close; listen for him.

9. Our First "Touchstone" Is Eucharistic Communion

During this time when the public celebration of Holy Mass has to be suspended, we need the graces of the Eucharist more than ever. For these are the graces whereby the Holy Spirit works in our lives that dying to self and living for the Father that is Jesus's Paschal Mystery. These graces can be available to us through Spiritual Communion. Please pray for Spiritual Communion in the fruits of Christ's sacrifice at least every Sunday, if not more often. And gather as a family to pray together for this Communion.

Continued on page 4

TEN GUIDEPOSTS FOR CHRISTIANS

IN THE TIME OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC (continued from page 3)

10. Our Second "Touchstone" Is Our Lady's Protection

From the cross Jesus gave us his Mother to be ours. In every age – from the days before Pentecost until today – the Church has been blessed through the Mother of God interceding for us, from her being close to us with her care and protection. Let us renew our commitment to "fly to her protection." I invite you to join with me in praying the "Memorare" every day to commend not only the Church but also our country, indeed the whole world, to the loving care of the Blessed Virgin Mary. And, I follow the admonitions of Bl. Solanus, "thanking God ahead of time" for the graces he will give us in answer to her prayers, and I will work to build a Lourdes Grotto on the grounds of our Cathedral as a token of appreciation for what I am sure he will do for us through her intercession.

CONCLUSION

"Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus" (Heb 12:1)

That's the best way I can summarize what I believe we need to do to come out of this pandemic as the daughters and sons God calls us to be.

Keep focused on Jesus' example of abandonment into the hands of God the Father.

Keep close to Jesus in prayer.

Keep confident that Jesus is with us in this time of trial.

Keep at peace, for Jesus is Lord, conqueror of sin and death, victor over every evil.

Archbishop Allen Vigneron



We appreciate everyone's patience and support during these challenging times, and when information can change at a moments notice. Amid all of the concerns that surround this current global situation, and in light of the Archbishop suspending all public Masses, just like many individuals our expenses will continue during this difficult time, and now more than ever we will need your support. Therefore, please consider registering for Online Giving to make your contributions to St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy. Online Giving makes use of current technology and security standards, and allows you to easily setup recurring contributions. It also enables us to be more efficient and reduce overhead expenses. We also welcome your contributions by dropping off at the parish mailbox or mailing. Thank you for your continued support!

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To begin, go to our website - www.stmarycooj.org - Click on the Menu link. Scroll down and click Our Parish then Online Giving. On the next screen click the big blue DONATE button. When signing up for the first time, click on the top left - First Time? button.

If you have any questions or need assistance with set up, please come in or contact the parish office at 734-425-4421.

Parish Updates

ALL PARISH AND EVENTS INCLUDING PUBLIC MASSES ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Please check stmarycooj.org for the most current information and/or sign up to receive important messages, at Flocknote. See how to sign up on page 5.

Mass: Livestreamed through the Archdiocese at: https://www.aod.org/livemasses

Parish and Church Office Hours:

 The office is closed at this time during the "stay at home" order from our governor. We are checking messages daily and will return calls as necessary.

Resources during these challenging times:

- Daily meditations from The Word Among Us: https://wau.org/meditations.
- Magnificat has offered free access to their online version: https:// us.magnificat.net/free.
- Unleashthegospel.org/2020
- Visit <u>52Sundays.com</u> simple and insightful ways for your family to spend time together each Sunday learning more about the Catholic faith

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,

Come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there And unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

MEMORARE

Remember,
O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known
that anyone who fled to thy protection,
implored thy help
or sought thy intercession
was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence,
we fly unto thee
O Virgin of virgins, our Mother.
To thee do we come.
Before thee we stand,
sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word Incarnate,
despise not our petitions,
but in your mercy hear and answer us.
Amen.



A limited number of blessed palms will be available outside Church main doors on Saturday, April 4 after 5:00pm.

Queen's Quotes from Religious Formation

Lenten Greetings and Salutations,

Today's Saint story is about Saint Francis of Paola, a hermit, 1416-1507.

As a young man, Francis went off to live alone to study the BIBLE and to pray. Others wanted to be like him and they came to live with him. He was known as a saint, a miracle worker and a peacemaker. Sometimes it is hard for us to turn off the TV and put away our video games and phones just to spend quiet time being with our friend Jesus.

Reflect...How might I be more attentive to my friend Jesus when I pray or talk to him?

Have a great week everyone "deplug" and spend some quiet time with the Lord.

Why are pianos so hard to open? The keys are on the inside.

Which dinosaur knew the most words? The Thesaurus.

Luv and Laughs, Sabrina Queen

MASS INTENTIONS *All intentions will be prayed for during private Mass time every day

All intentions will be prayed for during private Mass time every day.		
Mon. Mar.	30	Jean Ann McGrath by Nancy & Brian Frantz Eros Bariliari by Graziano Canini
Wed. Apr.	1	Robert Conrad by Mary Braczyk John Braczyk by Mary Braczyk
Fri. Apr.	3	For Vocations to the Priesthood
Sat. Apr.	4	Gary Kuclo by Aunt Del Alphonse Tabaka by Jane Lenart & Family George & Mildred Kennedy by the Kennedy Family Elizabeth Braczyk Brown by Mary Braczyk
Sun. Apr.	5	For our parish family James C Dziadosz by his wife Tim Wycihowski by family Charlie Cushieri by Leslie & Ron Berger Lee Borycz by family Frank Calabrese by Mike & Olimpia DeToma Ronald Dziadzio by family

Forever Young Seniors...

The April 6th meeting has been cancelled. Hopefully our next meeting will be on Monday, May 4th. Please check back for updates.

Please keep all of our Senior members in your prayers that we all stay safe and healthy.

We have some wonderful bus trips coming up:

Zehnders "Carole King Songbook" Thurs, May 7th 9:30am – 6:00pm \$90 due by March 30th

Meadowbrook Theatre "Fancy"
Wed, June 3rd
10:00am – 5:30pm
\$99 due by May 4th

Firekeepers Casino
Tues, July 14th
9:15am – 5:45pm
\$25 **due by June 30**th

The bus trips are open to everyone. Please call me 734-525-3737 for reservations and more details. Copies of the flyers are available in the back of Church or at the Parish Office during regular business hours. Make checks payable to Bianco and mail to me at 8843 Linville, Livonia, MI 48150.

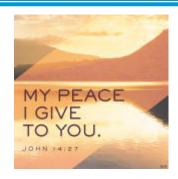
Maryann Sligay



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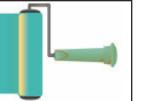
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Remember in Your Prayers

ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE CORONAVIRUS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD Compassionate and Loving Father, In the face of confusion and concern impart to us the calm of Your presence. In You allow us to find hope and healing. Be with those who serve the sick and give them Your caring hands. Be with those who lead and give them Your spirit of wisdom. Be with those who have fallen ill and give them Your comforting heart. Wrap Your arms around our world and hold us in Your love. Allow us at this time of trial to then serve as instruments of that love to all we meet. We ask this in Your Name.

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