

April 19, 2020
2nd Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday



In the Catholic Church, Easter is not one day but a whole season of joy—7 weeks of 7 days culminating in Pentecost on the 50th day. Today we hear from John's Gospel the story of Jesus' first appearance to His Apostles on the first Easter night. They were gathered in fear the Jews would find them and put them to death too. Suddenly Jesus passed thru the walls and locked doors. He could see they did not know what to make of it so He asked to eat some food to show them He was not a ghost. Thomas was absent for the first appearance of the Risen Christ. But he stated his faith clearly a week later when Jesus again appeared to the Apostles.

Usually when we tell stories and we are involved in the story, we make ourselves look good. But the Apostles are very honest witnesses to the Risen Lord. They clearly were slow to believe. They are faithful witnesses to the truth: Christ is indeed Risen!

Thank you to all who are contributing to the support of our parish by online giving or mailing your contributions or dropping it off at the Rectory.

Thank you also to all who have already responded to the Annual Catholic Appeal. Our parish is expected to contribute \$63,000 as our share of the appeal.

Is there someone you know: in your family, a neighbor or friend, whom you can encourage to come home? Someone may be waiting for the invitation to come and find peace. The Lord needs **YOU** to extend the invitation.

MESSAGE FROM OUR DIOCESE

Unfortunately, during times of crisis, scammers emerge to prey on the vulnerable. We have had a report that **scammers are impersonating clergy** in an effort to gain access to our peoples' accounts. Please, verify any communications from clergy or parish before sending any personal information.

Please Pray For Our Sick Parishioners

Ruth Bower, Charles Brumbaugh, Patricia Darmanin, Jayne Davenport, Bob Davis, Julia Davis, Gerri Episcopo, Sara Garrison, Sarah Hess, Ella Kirksey, Fr. Roy Pollard, Terri Reed, Dorothy Rich, Helen Rupnicki, Kathleen Schaubert, Irma Shock, Caitlin Soper, Frank Sullivan, Catherine Thomson, James Whisker, Ann Wilson, Cindy Zych, Anita Tyrawski, Mary Gabel, Alline Da Grossa, Toni Di Lezio, Sister Dorothy Prettyman, Janet Szubieolski, Catalina Weddle, Ray Altamuro, Marie Spinden, Jane Parsons, Francis Medeiros, Friends at the Kutz Home, Amy Jo Schosie-Jones, Nicolas Childs, Alfred Palmer, Bridget Robinson, Fr. Bill Lawler, Mary Tabler, Fr. Charles Dillingham

VIEW MASS

Please view Mass from St. Helena's via YouTube. You can also find the link (as well as updates) on the St. Helena's website below and on St. Helena's Facebook page.
<https://www.sainthelenas.org>

If you need to come to the Rectory we ask that you please call 302-764-0325 THANK YOU!

The Offertory Collections: For the week of 3/29 was \$3,781.00 and the on-line collection was \$1,420.00 for a total of \$5,201.00. THANK YOU to everyone who is supporting our parish by online giving, mail or by dropping off your envelopes

Please note: we can receive envelopes by US mail or you can drop off your envelope at the rectory via the front door mail slot and by Online Giving.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION – I am wishing all of our families and fellow parishioners well and look forward to the time when we can all gather as NORMAL! If any parent would like to pick up their child’s workbook from this year, I will let you know as soon as I am able to return upstairs to the classrooms. Please check out the Diocesan website cdow.org for resources and tips while we are sequestered in our homes.

A HUGE THANK YOU goes out to the following catechists and aides who have volunteered their time this year to teach your children in Religious Ed. I could never thank them enough for their dedication to our program.

Clare Dunning and Betty Turcol – FIRST Grade

Donna McDonough and Sandy Salvatore (and AMY) – SECOND Grade

Lindsay Conaway and Michaela Kelly – THIRD Grade

Samantha Brown and Lynda Neef (and MOLLY) – FOURTH Grade

Larry and Judy Gladnick (and GRANDDAUGHTERS) – FIFTH Grade

Damian Ponzio and Kyle Sobieski – SIXTH Grade

Ralph DaGrossa and Trish Horne – SEVENTH Grade

Jim Clark and Kathleen DiCamilla – EIGHTH Grade



Cancelled

Out of respect for all our Bingo players, volunteers and our community at large, we are cancelling our weekly Bingo. We will reassess the situation at another time and decide when it is best to begin weekly Bingo games again. We offer our prayers that all in our community remain well and we look forward to seeing everyone at Bingo when we begin our games again.

JESUS IS RISEN! ALLELUIA! ALL IS WELL!



MASSES

Msgr Russell is celebrating a Mass each day privately, as the Bishop said. If there is a Mass intention listed for any of the Masses, he is offering the Mass for that intention. If there are more intentions listed, he will celebrate that Mass at another day when there is no intention. He misses seeing all of you at Mass but is praying for all of you. Pray that God delivers us from this Corona Virus.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 18

Rick Armes

Sunday, April 19

People of the Parish

Monday, April 20

Lisa Waterfield (Anniversary)

Tuesday, April 21

Timothy Castiglione

Wednesday, April 22

Kevin Horne, Jr.

Thursday, April 23

Inez Knight-Lapp (55th Anniversary)

Friday, April 24

Richard Dorsey (33rd Anniversary)

Saturday, April 25

Deceased Members of the Russell and Sullivan Families

Sunday, April 26

People of the Parish



Pope Francis's Prayer to Mary during Coronavirus Pandemic

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.

You, Salvation of Your People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.



St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 8:31-39

More Than Conquerors

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all – how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died---more than that, who was raised to life---is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ...As it is written:

*“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”*

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is Christ Jesus our Lord.

Changes in Light of the Novel Coronavirus

from Bishop Malooly...

To comply with the orders and guidance of the governors of the States of Delaware and Maryland, Bishop Malooly instructs that **all parish churches be closed until further notice. No gatherings or services should be organized that bring people out of their homes.**

The closure means that churches may not be open for private prayer. No drive-in, drive-through, drive-up, or other type services are permitted.

In addition, Bishop Malooly has instructed priests not to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation in parishes and to only perform the Sacraments in cases where the individual is in danger of dying.

We need to take every precaution and every step necessary to ensure the health of the people we serve. Government officials and experts have said that these upcoming weeks will be critical to slowing the spread of the disease in this area.

Parish offices should be closed to the public. Only minimal staff may be brought in to perform essential functions. Programs that serve those in need may continue, respecting social distancing guidelines.

Funeral Masses remain suspended, with only graveside services taking place with no more than 10 people present, including the priest performing the Rite of Committal.

All parishes are encouraged to find ways to remain in contact with their parishioners via telephone and digital means. Additional information can be found at cdow.org/coronavirus.

We will continue to monitor the situation and adjust policy as necessary.

Let us continue to pray for our diocese, our health care workers, and for all affected by the coronavirus.