

**April 5, 2020**

**Palm Sunday**

**How difficult it is for all of us this year to observe Holy Week and Easter!**

**We know how disappointed and sad so many of you are.**

This year we all are called to offer up all the sufferings associated with the Corona virus and the efforts to prevent its spread. We unite our sufferings with Jesus through our prayer and meditation on the blessed Passion and Resurrection of Christ.

If you can, enter into the Stations of the Cross on our website and YouTube. We will record the Mass of Holy Thursday, the Liturgy of Good Friday. We will try to “livestream” the liturgies of Holy Week but we do not know how successful we will be. A number of churches have found it difficult to “live stream” because of so many folks are on the internet. If possible Holy Thursday Mass will be at 4PM (on April 9<sup>th</sup>); Good Friday at 3PM (on April 10<sup>th</sup>) the Easter Vigil Mass at 8PM (on April 11<sup>th</sup>).

We appreciate all the folks who are continuing to support our Parish and its ministries by your generous contributions: on line, by mail or by dropping off at the Rectory secure mail slot.

God bless you and keep you healthy and safe!

**PER BISHOP MALOOLY**

**Distribution of Palm**

In light of the increasing restrictions going into effect in the State of Maryland and anticipating similar restrictions for the State of Delaware, the **distribution of palm is not to take place in any form.** Parishes that are able to can keep the palm in a cool, dry place and distribute them after restrictions are lifted.

**Our Outreach office is closed.**

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

**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

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Religious Education Classes have closed for the school year. If any parent would like to retrieve their child's book, please call Ms Hummy at 598-1011 or email her at [hpennell@sainthelenas.org](mailto:hpennell@sainthelenas.org) to set up a time.

FIRST EUCHARIST and CONFIRMATION preparation has been discontinued until further notice. We will be having both SACRAMENTS celebrated but at a different time. Ms Hummy will be in contact with all families. Right now CONFIRMATION is still planned for JUNE 14, but FIRST EUCHARIST has been cancelled for May 9/10.

ALL PARISHIONERS – You can always visit the Diocesan webpage [cdow.org](http://cdow.org) as they have many resources available for your perusal.

## GATHERINGS

We realize the need to have community prayer with family and friends however please do this via facetime, Skype, Zoom etc. We cannot have people gathering inside or outside St. Helena's Church. Please review the Bishop's directive in our bulletin. Thank you for your understanding.

## CONFESSIONS

Confessions will be available by appointment only please call the Rectory (302-764-0325). You do not need to identify who you are. Monsignor will schedule you.

## 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>

**Please Note: NO private prayer will be allowed in the church**

The word "BINGO" is written in large, white, bold letters on a dark red, glossy, 3D-style background.

## **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.



## 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 4

Josephine "Josie" Conaty

### Sunday, April 5

People of the Parish

### Monday, April 6

John P. O'Connor, Sr. & Patricia DeCusatis

### Tuesday, April 7

Battista & Jenny Turcol

### Wednesday, April 8

Marie Connolly

### Thursday, April 9

Morning Prayer

Mass for Lord's Supper

### Friday, April 10

Morning Prayer

### Saturday, April 11

Morning Prayer

People of the Parish

### Sunday, April 12

People of the Parish



The Offertory Collections For the weekend 3/22 was \$2,217.00 and the on-line collection was \$1,560.00 for a total of \$3,777.00. THANK YOU! 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.

## 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.



# *Changes in Light of the Novel Coronavirus*

After prayerful consideration and with the advice of my senior staff, deans, medical, and government officials, I have taken the extraordinary step to **cancel all public Masses in the Diocese of Wilmington until further notice, effective immediately**. This effort is designed to help safeguard the public and prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

I am saddened to have had to make this decision but, in the end, it was an easy one as we must put the health and well-being of our parishioners and others first. It is important that we continue to remind our people to be safe and to follow all directives from our governmental agencies. This is not a time to panic but we need to take this very seriously.

Please be mindful of the following:

- All Masses (Weekday and Weekend) and all liturgical and devotional services are suspended until further notice with the exception of weddings and funerals, where attendance is limited to immediate family only.
- Priests should continue to celebrate private Masses in order to fulfill all Mass intentions.
- All parishes should maintain office hours. You may alter the days and times.

The Office of Communication has set up a website – [cdow.org/coronavirus](http://cdow.org/coronavirus) – with information including a viewable Sunday Mass recorded at the Cathedral of Saint Peter.

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.

Sincerely in Our Lord,  
Bishop Malooly