

## A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Dear St. Joseph Parish Family,

Things are eerie here at St. Joseph's- as you know the Cardinal has cancelled all public Masses in the Archdiocese indefinitely. This past Sunday was the strangest Sunday I've ever experienced. The whole country seems to be quickly winding to a halt. I've spoken with friars and family in other cities and everywhere seems to be headed in the same direction. Currently the CDC is recommending that groups over 50 be prohibited for 8 weeks, so we may be living in this new reality for some time.

**How should we approach this crisis spiritually?** Evil, either human or natural, such as disease, is a consequence of sin. When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, when they no longer trusted God and sought to be gods themselves by eating the forbidden fruit, they threw themselves and the world into disorder. When they no longer saw themselves under God, under His care and protection, then their souls became disordered, and the world that was ordered to humanity as its guardian was also disordered. Sin throws everything out of whack. God permits the disorder of the world to continue- meaning even disease and pestilence that would not otherwise be our lot. However, God uses the evil humanity unleashed as an opportunity to bring us back to Himself. The question is always how do we handle the crosses before us- do we return to God and find salvation, or turn to cynicism, bitterness, and despair. Do we use this cross to encounter God's mercy?

The coronavirus pandemic is as affront to our pride- that we have conquered nature, are in control of the world, and no longer suffer the calamities of older times. That through science, technology, and political organization we have overcome the lot that most of humanity has faced- that life is no longer fragile and dependent, but rather under our control. Coronavirus should disabuse us of such pride. Let us accept humility- let us again be children of God. Our lives are now thrown out of our daily routines- out of the daily grind. This stepping out of the every-day is an opportunity. It's an opportunity to look at our lives more clearly, to see that the daily routines that can lead to a sense of control over our lives and destiny are not nearly as certain as we believe. Instead they can blind us to deeper reality. Let us turn again to the true foundation of our lives: God. Let us look up from the work before us and see the heavens again. It is so easy to see only the daily work we do and never look up to God. Now that those routines are being shattered, let us return our gaze to God in prayer. Every cross brings grace- don't refuse the graces of this moment.

**Need Help?** St. Joseph has a group of volunteers willing to help anyone who cannot or should not go out to shop for groceries or pick up medication, or perform any other necessary task. If you need help please email the parish (secretary@stjosephgv.nyc) or call the parish and leave a voicemail (212-741-1274). The offices are closed right now, but the parish staff is working from home and will answer any voicemails. St. Joseph is ready to support our parish community, so please don't hesitate to ask for help. Any crisis must be faced with Christ as the model- with charity as our guide.

Also, the blog Aleteia has written an article about our response to the coronavirus, highlighting our volunteers ready to help fellow parishioners. It's at <https://aleteia.org/2020/03/13/read-how-this-parish-is-responding-to-coronavirus-inspiring/>.

### **What's Happening at St. Joseph now?**

We are following the directives of Cardinal Dolan concerning what we can provide at St. Joseph's. He has cancelled all public Masses in the Archdiocese indefinitely. So here is what is available currently:

#### **What's happening:**

- **Adoration** is being held during the regular Mass times.
- **Confession** is still available at the regular times.
- **Stations of the Cross** are being held Fridays at 7pm until April 3rd.
- Starting Sunday, I'll send a **weekly homily** to parishioners to help provide spiritual nourishment during this crisis.
- Any **meetings with friars** for wedding preparations, baptism preparations, spiritual counsel, etc. are being held through phone or computer application rather than in person.

•**Baptisms** are being held, but until public Masses return, they will be restricted to the person being baptized, the parents, and the godparents.

**What's not happening for now:**

- The **parish office** is closed and the parish staff are working from home.
- The **St. Joseph dinner** planned for 3/21 is cancelled. When the office reopens and when public Masses resume people who purchased tickets can return them for a refund. Also, we will have a parish dinner to celebrate the opening of McGuire Hall later in the year.
- The **parish mission** planned for the 5th week of Lent is cancelled.
- All **parish ministries** are canceled until further notice.

**The bottom line:**

**The church is open for prayer at the same times as before, but there will be adoration instead of Mass.**

All **Mass intentions** are being honored. Every day the friars hold a private Dominican community Mass so that the Eucharist is still being celebrated in the city, so that the light of Christ continues to be present even if hidden. At those Masses we offer the Mass intentions that would have been offered in our public Masses. **In case you're wondering...**The vote on the new door color for the church was: A-61, B-19, C-120. The doors will thus be painted a deep rich Marian blue.

**In Closing** This Thursday is the **Solemnity of St. Joseph**, our parish patron. Go to him in your needs and pray in a special way for our parish this Wednesday. Please keep our community in your prayers, as well as our city and nation. These times are a call to virtue and holiness, so accept the graces God wants to give you. Stay close to Christ and trust in His Providence- with God all things work for the good.

Have a blessed Lent,

*Fr. Boniface Endorf, O.P*

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

**Weekly collections for the remaining Sundays in March will be posted in April.**

**ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH  
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**



Gifts large and small will have an impact on our parish and beyond. The cumulative power of giving will allow us to further our ministries. We humbly ask you to consider supporting the St. Joe's Capital Campaign.

**Our goal is to raise \$700,000 in pledges**

As of March 15<sup>th</sup> We have received **140 pledges** for a total of **\$518,655**

**Donating to St. Joseph's Church**

For the parish to perform its daily operations, consistent donations are needed. Your donations allow the parish to maintain and grow the mission of the Church.

During this coronavirus crisis your weekly donations are even more important for the daily operations of the church.

**Ways to give:**

**1. Weekly Envelopes**

Your weekly envelopes can be dropped off during Adoration or they can be mailed.

**2. Online Giving:  
FaithStreet and WeShare**

To register to either giving platform, go to our website and chose the Donation tab. Click on "**Faithstreet**" or **WeShare** and fill out the form.

Also, Faithstreet allows you donate **via test message**. You can donate via text by messaging the amount to (646) 832-4848. (E.g. "25" to send \$25). Click the link you receive and input the code: *stjoseph* and to complete the one-time setup.

## @Mass Intentions

### SATURDAY, MARCH 21

12:10 pm

5:30 pm

### SUNDAY, MARCH 22

9:00 am Marisa McGrody

11:30 am Colleen Carney

6:00 pm People of the Parish

### MONDAY, MARCH 23

*Saint Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop*

12:10 pm John Pisciotta

### TUESDAY, MARCH 24

*Saint Oscar Romero, Bishop and Martyr*

12:10 pm

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

12:10 pm Stella Bromirski

### THURSDAY, MARCH 26

12:10 pm

### FRIDAY, MARCH 27

12:10 pm

### PRAYER REQUEST

*Please pray for:*

Brooke Biondi . Laura Brotodihardjo .

Caroline de Ciutiis .

Jane Martel . Matthew Pino . Anthony

Spinelli . Zoila Vallo

If you would like to include someone on our prayer list, please call the church office to submit their names. Names on the prayer list will remain for four (4) weeks. If you wish to leave them on longer, please call the church office, weekdays 9am – 5pm.

## St. Joseph's Holy Week Schedule

### PALM SUNDAY APRIL 5th:

Procession at 11:30 a.m. Mass; Masses normal times

### HOLY MONDAY APRIL 6th:

12:10 p.m. daily Mass; Reconciliation Monday 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.

**HOLY TUESDAY APRIL 7th:** 12:10 p.m. daily Mass

**SPY WEDNESDAY APRIL 8th:** 12:10 p.m. daily Mass

### MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 9th:

9 a.m. Matins & Lauds in church

4:30 p.m. - setup church

6:45 p.m. - liturgy rehearsal

8 p.m. - Mass of the Lord's Supper, followed by adoration in the chapel of repose (in school gym)

12 a.m. - compline closes adoration

### GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 10th:

9 a.m. - Matins & Lauds in church

10 a.m. (after prayer) - setup church

12 p.m. - Stations of the Cross

1 p.m. - choir practice

2 p.m. - liturgy rehearsal

3 p.m. - Veneration of the Cross

7 p.m. - setup

8 p.m. - Tenebrae

### HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 11th:

9 a.m. - Matins & Lauds in church

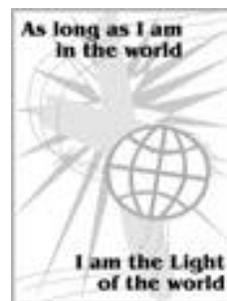
10 a.m. (after prayer) - Vigil rehearsal (for servers, RCIA, etc.)

12 p.m. - decorate church & liturgy setup

8:30 p.m. - Easter Vigil

### EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 12th:

9:00 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. | 6:00 p.m.



## FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

### First Reading: 1 Samuel 10:1b,6-7,10-13A

In seeking a King for the Israelites, Samuel traveled to Jesse of Bethlehem, who had seven sons. Commanded by God to ignore the elder sons, Samuel anointed the youngest, David.

### Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

Paul exhorts the Ephesians to live as “children of light” in goodness and truth and to avoid evil deeds “done in darkness.”

### Gospel: John 9:1-41

Jesus performs the miracle of giving sight to the man born blind. Because Jesus performed this miracle on the Sabbath, the Pharisees called him a “sinner,” but the blind man said, “He is a prophet.” Jesus later reveals to the blind man that He is the Son of Man.

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT DAILY READINGS

### Sunday

1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a; Eph 5:8-14; Jn 9:1-41  
Or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

### Monday

Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54

### Tuesday

Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16

### Wednesday

Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

### Thursday

Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47

### Friday

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

### Saturday

Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53

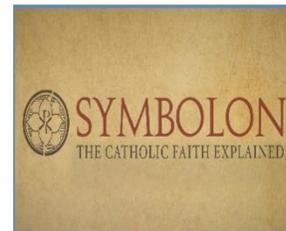


## FORMED

*Symbolon: The Catholic Faith Explained – The Story of Salvation*

Walk in the steps of Jesus of Nazareth throughout the story of Salvation in this week's pick from FORMED. You can watch with your free parish subscription by simply selecting our parish's name during registration at [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup).

## FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK



### Symbolon The Story of Salvation

The story of salvation began with Creation itself—and a decision that affects all of us to this present day. How did the events of an ancient past set into motion God's rescue operation to save us from eternal death?

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