

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK – MAY 24, 2020

SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

9:30AM Nicholas Sertich, Sr.
Ivan Picinic (Kovacic)
Antonia Busanic
Geraldine Fox Bartner

MONDAY, MAY 25

STS. BEDE THE VENERABLE, GREGORY VII, MARY MAGDALENE DE PAZZI

11.300AM Agnes & Charles Rossi

TUESDAY, MAY 26

ST. PHILIP NERI

11:30AM Ints. of Ordination Class of 2001
Joseph Tolomeo

WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

11:30AM Luigia Venir
Diego Leon

THURSDAY, MAY 28

11:30AM Hyacinth Logan Moore
Diego Leon

FRIDAY, MAY 29

11:30AM Hilda & John Dondero
Maria & Martin Morin

SATURDAY, MAY 30

11:30AM Senko Skific

SUNDAY, MAY 31

PENTECOST SUNDAY

5:15PM Johanna Rea-Reynolds
9:30AM Gardenia Tarabocchia
Dinko Busanic
Filomena Pallotta

ALTAR BREAD

In Memory of

Magliato & Legreca Families

ALTAR WINE

In Memory of

John Mattessich

EASTER CANDLE

In Memory of

Manzini & Pettrizzie Families

SANCTUARY LAMP

In Memory of

Dinko & Antonia Busanic

MASS CANDLES

In Memory of

Maria & Martin Morin

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for, next Sunday are-:

Acts 2:1-11

Tongues of fire rested on the disciples and they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

Ps. 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15

Blessed the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13

Everyone possesses different gifts and different ministries.

Jn 20:19-23

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit.



My dear parishioners and friends,

This Sunday we are celebrating the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. This great feast is usually celebrated on Thursday, 40 days after Jesus' Resurrection from the dead, but this year our Archbishop has chosen to move the celebration of the feast to Sunday.

We are currently in Phase 1 of the 3-phase plan for reopening our churches. Phase 2 will allow us to celebrate public daily masses and funerals with 10 family members in attendance. We don't know yet when we will be able to move to Phase 2. Phase 3 will allow us to once again celebrate the Sunday liturgy together; however, we have a lot to think about before we move to Phase 3 because we will still have to be conscious of wearing masks and keeping the proper "social distance" from one another.

Attending daily mass during Phase 2 will not be as difficult as during Phase 3 simply because of the number of people involved. Daily mass attendance is usually fewer than 50 people and we will easily be able to accommodate 50 and maintain the "social distance" we need to be safe. Sunday masses are much more heavily attended than daily masses. At present we have "roped off" half of the pews in the church, so we have about 20 pews for people to use. With 3-4 individuals per pew that is 60-80 people we can seat. If we add in two rows of chairs on the pulpit side of the church and two rows of chairs in the choir loft we can add another 16-20 seats while still maintaining the "social distance" rule. Of course, where families and couples are concerned we may be able to accommodate a few more people but it seems to me that the maximum we can seat for a Sunday mass will be about 100-120. Obviously we will need to do something to make it possible for our congregation to attend Sunday masses on a regular basis. Here is what I have been thinking:

1. We will have to increase the number of Sunday masses.
2. We will need to institute a "reservation" system for people to choose a particular mass and reserve a seat. (Believe it or not we actually DO have the technology to do this and we have been building the database to make it work over the last year or so, we could really use some tech-savy help to manage this system.)
3. We will need to have VOLUNTEERS to help "disinfect" the church between masses on Sunday, and we will need to purchase the extra cleaning supplies to make that happen.

My dear brothers and sisters it may seem strange to be reading these things, but now is the time to be thinking about the "how-to's" or we will never be ready when the Archdiocese moves to Phase 3. WE WILL ALL NEED TO PULL TOGETHER WHEN WE MOVE TO PHASE 3!

If you are willing and able to be a part of the tech-team and the Sunday cleaning crew, please drop us a note in the office.

*Fondly yours in Christ,
Fr. Bruce*

PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you for sharing the gift of your treasure so that we can continue to do God's work here.

<i>Sunday Collection</i>	May 17, 2020
<i>Catholic Home Mission Appeals</i>	\$ 2,531.00
<i>Easter Collection (thus far)</i>	\$ 123.00
<i>"I am praying for them..." – John 17:9</i>	\$15,194.00

Prayer is the foundation of our Faith and the foundation of Stewardship. Pray in good times and in bad. Prayer is always the first best option in any situation, not just the last resort. Pray for friends and family and for those that don't treat you very well. Pray to give praise, to thank and to ask God for help. Pray to see what God wants you to do with the gifts He has given you.

FOOD PANTRY

We are in dire need of food for our Community Food Pantry which is now open. Please bring food to the church from 1:00-5:00PM or bring it to the rectory vestibule. We are also available on Friday mornings from 10:00AM-12 Noon. We especially need: canned tomato sauce, cereal, tuna fish, jelly, canned fruit, and packaged instant mashed potatoes. We appreciate all your help to feed our clients. May God bless you for your generosity.

FEAST OF THE ASCENSION

Although the obligation of Mass attendance has been suspended this year because of the pandemic, the Ascension of the Lord is a very important part of Paschal spirituality. Mass will be celebrated this Sunday at 9:30AM virtually.

REQUESTING A SPECIAL FAVOR

If you are moving out of the parish, please be kind enough to inform the rectory so that we can stop sending envelopes to you. It usually takes two months before the parishioner is removed by the company. Also, if you are moving to a new location in our parish, please inform the rectory. Thank you for your consideration to this request.

ST. PATRICK/ST. JOSEPH'S DINNER DANCE

Due to the pandemic that has come into the world, we have only postponed our St. Patrick/St. Joseph's Dinner Dance. Watch the bulletin for further details.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Does your marriage sometimes feel like the Tower of Babel – each of you speaking but not understanding each other? Gary Chapman identified 5 Love Languages that couples often use: words of affirmation, acts of service, giving gifts, quality time, and physical touch. Which is your strongest?

PARENTING POINTERS

"As a body is one though it has many parts." (1 Cor 12-11) Discuss the many different jobs that people in your family do? Which is the most important? Wrong question – since each person has different talents and time. Is it time to reassess who does which jobs?

CORONA VIRUS PRAYER

We thank you, dear Father, for these hours of unity. Selfless acts of service and kindness warm our hearts. Strangers see opportunities to share with others. Our medical warriors are working together, at personal risk, to care for the rest of us. We thank you for their remarkable commitment. And we see the world turning to you, Father. People encourage people with scriptures and reminders of your sovereignty. We read posts helping us to respect each other, care for each other, and look up. We confess we have been anxious but because of this, we have hope. We ask, Father, let your mercy be upon all who suffer. Grant to those who lead us wisdom beyond their experience. Have mercy upon the souls you have hurt by this disease. Give us grace to help each other and faith that we might believe. Amen.

SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY MASSES

We celebrate Mass every day at 11:30AM and every Sunday at 9:30AM. You can view the masses on our website at www.epiphanyrcchurch.org. The Church is now open for private prayer ONLY each day from 1:00-5:00PM for private prayer. You must wear gloves and a mask to enter the church and you must also maintain a social distance of at least six feet or more.

HEALING MASS & NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

A Healing Mass will take place on Saturday, May 30th at 11:30AM on our website. Even though you are not in our church physically, you will still receive the healing right in your own home. Also, there will be a nine day Novena to the Holy Spirit which began on Friday at 5:15PM. A special Vigil Mass of the Holy Spirit will be held on May 30th at 5:15PM.

DON BOSCO HIGH SCHOOL

Don Bosco Prep, Ramsey, will hold a Virtual Open House for students and families on Monday, June 1st at 7:00PM. This tour will give families the opportunity to see brothers, faculty and staff and there will be interactive presentations and activities. Visit our website www.donboscoprep.org for more information and register @ www.donboscoprep.org/virtualopenhouse

BERGEN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Bergen Catholic will hold its summer "BC Lead On" Program for 7th & 8th grade boys from July 13th-30th from 8:00AM-12 Noon. Registration can be found on the website – www.bergencatholic.org

ESTATE SALE

There is a huge estate sale in Leonia. If interested in browsing or purchasing, please call 757-645-6868 for an appointment or you may email tradetalks@aol.com. Items to be sold include: sports equipment, hummels, dinnerware, furniture, furs, women's clothing, garden tools, lawn mower, tools, a 2010 Lexus, costume jewelry and much more. A percentage of the proceeds from the estate sale will be donated to Epiphany Church.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Ann Callagher, Caroline Craven, Felicia Martello, Arianna Cappola, Doris Levy, Cindy Simeone Reynolds, Baby Juliette Payne, Brian Hone, Cora Shaffer, Baby Michael, Clyde Harger, Cesar Valdecantos, Kay Tak, Michele Spino, Evelyn Rodriguez, Barbara Snow, Mary Iannaccone, Doris Portillo, Teresita Zafrá-Santos, Ann Marie Applegate Tatiana Flores, Rosalie Connors, Christopher Nash, Pat Romano, Donna Carrajat, Tony Martello, Little Gabriel, Rachel Rocks, Sean O'Connor, Vladimir Drobikov, Louanne Mitchell, Kathy Lennon, Colleen Meyers, Domenick Deodino, Rosemarie Liversidge, Christine Caruso, Patrick Bove, Camille Moglia, John Keegan, Kay O'Connor, Anthony Martini, Pantaleon Domingo, Patricia Citro, Brother Peter Lyne, Conrado Trinidad, Joanne Kaiser, Patricia Warren, Ramon Villavicencio, Danilo Bonifacio, Angie Vigna, Daniel Johnson, Ryan Cariddi, Laura Cipullo, Frances Marino, Robert Donato, Richard Allen, Anthony Martello, Jr., Miguel Madera, Natalie Dente, Joe Villani, Lisa Mutchler, Elizabeth Chan, Benjamin Yap, Henry Yap, Archbishop Emeritus John Joseph Myers, Rose & Anthony McCluskey, Jane Kim Estantino, Mike Hromin, Nancy Manto, Giuseppe Totaro, Peter Barbato, Roy Regaspi, Gloria Marquez, David Barmore, Drew Johnson, John Reynolds, Kunaim Emelyanesko, Kathy Santiago.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

Joan Wager, Charlotte McClave Shelley.

"LIFE IS PRECIOUS, AND IT IS OUR MORAL DUTY TO PROTECT AND DEFEND IT!"