

## WEEK OF SUNDAY MARCH 22, 2020



FR. BARRY WILL SAY A PRIVATE MASS FOR THE FOLLOWING INTENTIONS :

**Sunday, March 22, Fourth Sunday of Lent**

Family of Dale Schoenberger from the Mike Ryan Family

**Monday, March 23, St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop**

Bill Rust from Mary and Family

**Tuesday, March 24, St. Oscar Romero, Bishop & Martyr**

Joan Connors from Helen Weartz

**Wednesday, March 25, The Annunciation of the Lord**

Barry Savage from Julia Jackson

**Thursday, March 26**

Nellie Dillon from Carol and Larry

**Friday, March 27**

The Boylan Family from Mary and Barry Smyth

**Saturday, March 28**

Bill Coleman from Tom and Oti Perrino

**Sunday, March 29, Fifth Sunday of Lent**

Scott Schlosser Jr. from Amy Schlosser

*You were once darkness, but now  
you are light in the Lord. Live as chil-  
dren of light, for light produces every  
kind of goodness and  
righteousness and truth. .  
St. Paul*

**Rev. Barry Windholtz**

*Pastor*

**This Weekend's Hymns**

*All hymns can be found in  
the Seasonal Missalette.*

Opening Hymn: #308

Communion: #277

Closing Hymn: #215

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### *From the Pastor's Desk*

## **ARCHDIOCESE DIRECTIVE: NO PUBLIC MASSES UNTIL AFTER EASTER**

For your convenience here are some alternate ways for Mass:

EWTN has Masses daily at 8am, 12pm and 7pm

<https://www.ewtn.com/tv/schedule>

MARYTV.TV

<https://marytv.tv/english-mass-in-medjugorje-13/>

On-line only

### **FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE:**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

After serious consideration of the grave health risk involved in public gatherings and in order to curb the spread of the Coronavirus, the bishops of Ohio have decided, effective immediately, to suspend temporarily all publicly celebrated Masses/liturgies, at least through the celebrations of Holy Week and Easter. The bishops of Ohio dispense the Catholic faithful who reside in their respective dioceses and all other Catholics currently in Ohio from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass through Easter Sunday.

This decision is not taken lightly and, as your bishops, causes us great sadness. However, after consultation with the governor and health officials we are convinced that this is the most prudent and necessary action. Science has proven that participation in public gatherings significantly increases the risk of contagion. This poses a serious danger to those especially most vulnerable.

As Catholics, in every Sunday Mass we celebrate the passion, death and resurrection of our Lord. The Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith. In this moment, we are experiencing in a unique way the passion of our Lord as this pandemic prevents us from gathering for the Sunday Eucharist. In this very difficult time, we encourage the faithful to turn to the Church's treasury of prayer. Sunday remains a holy day, and we encourage the faithful to pray using the rich resources of our faith, including praying as a family or individually the rosary, divine mercy chaplet, the Liturgy of the Hours, stations of the cross, etc. We also urge you to participate in prayer by way of radio broadcast or televised or live-streamed Mass and make a spiritual communion.

Please join us in praying for all who are suffering from illness or disease of any kind, for all health care workers, and for an easing of the anxiety and tension caused by this situation. Relying on the Motherly care of Our Lady, we unite our sufferings to those of Our Lord Jesus Christ, who is our healing and our hope.

Most Rev. Dennis M. Schnurr

Archbishop of Cincinnati



### Opening Prayer

O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

### Reflecting on Living the Gospel

The gospel story today opens with popular wisdom of the day expressed by the disciples. Basically, they ask, "Whose fault is it?" that the man is blind. Jesus rejects such attribution, which parallels the attitudes he expresses in the Gospel of Luke. It is not that bad things happen to bad people. Such thinking, which infects many religious and nonreligious people, is not new in our day. Jesus is far removed from any "prosperity gospel" (good things happen to those who are good), as it might be understood today.

After Jesus heals this blind person, those who knew him could not believe their own eyes! Indeed, they said it was not the same person. Only when the man who was formerly blind says that he is one and the same do the onlookers ask how this happened. The situation escalates quickly to the Pharisees when the reader is informed that all of this took place on a Sabbath, a holy day on which no work is to be done. This theological riddle puzzled the Pharisees, who viewed Jesus as a sinner because he did not keep the Sabbath. Yet how could a sinner make the blind see? When faced with such testimony from the man who had been blind, who proclaimed Jesus a prophet, it seems best to deny the testimony! Those who are considered learned deny straightforward evidence that is presented to them.

Rather than see this only as an account of a sign that Jesus performed (Jesus performs "signs" rather than "miracles" in the Gospel of John), we would do well to ponder its application to us. How often do we reject plain evidence because it does not reconcile with what we "know" to be true? It is difficult to change one's mind, especially if that means changing many other attitudes and thoughts as well.

### Closing Prayer

Jesus Christ, light of the world, you made the blind man see. Give us vision to see the world as you do, to recognize injustice and subsequently work to overcome it. May your light shine in our world, and may we too reflect this same light in our lives. In your name we pray. Amen.



### For Reflection:

• In your life of faith, when have you had an experience of conversion or suddenly been able to "see" where before you had a spiritual "blind spot"?

### Suggestions for group and individual uses

1. Pray aloud the "Opening Prayer" (in *The Roman Missal* called the "collect").
2. One person read aloud the gospel.
3. Each read prayerfully "Reflecting on Living the Gospel" and spend some time in personal prayer.
4. Share together responses to "For Reflection."
5. Pray the "Closing Prayers."

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### Gospel

John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38 (shorter form) or John 9:1-41 (longer form)

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam"—which means Sent—.

So he went and washed, and came back able to see.

His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said,

"Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?"

Some said, "It is,"

but others said, "No, he just looks like him."

He said, "I am."

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees.

Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath.

So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see.

He said to them,

"He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see."

So some of the Pharisees said,

"This man is not from God, because he does not keep the sabbath."

But others said,

"How can a sinful man do such signs?"

And there was a division among them.

So they said to the blind man again,

"What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?"



He said, "He is a prophet."

They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?"

Then they threw him out.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

He answered and said,

"Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?"

Jesus said to him,

"You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he."

He said,

"I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him.

### Readings for the week:

4th Sunday of Lent	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday Annunciation	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	5th Sunday of Lent
1 Sam 16:1b, 6-7, 10-12a	Isa 65:17-21	Ezek 47:1-9, 12	Isa 7:10-14 & 30	Exod 32:7-14	Wis 2:1a, 12-22	Jer 11:18-30	Ezek 37:12-14
Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6	Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b	Ps 48:2-3, 5-6, 8-9	Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 11	Ps 108:19-20, 21-22, 23	Ps 94:7-18, 19-20, 21 and 23	Ps 72:3, 9b-c-10, 11-12	Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8
Eph 2:8-14	Jhn 4:43-54	Jhn 5:1-16	Hab 1:04-10	Jhn 5:50-47	Jhn 7:1-2, 30, 25-30	Jhn 7:40-53	Rom 8:8-11
Jhn 9:1-41 or 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38			Luke 1:26-38				Jhn 11:45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 39b-45