

April 29, 2020

Dear Friends,

So hopefully the April showers will bring the May flowers, as we are about to enter the beautiful month of May. Don't forget that it is the month of Mary, so a Rosary a day, if you aren't already praying one, is in order. Pray to our Blessed Mother for the grace and strength of perseverance and determination as our world **BEGINS** to slowly open up for business. Remember your Mom this month, too!

I am sure you have already seen or heard the news that the Bishops of Ohio have announced that the public celebration of Mass in our churches **BEGINS** with the weekend of May 30th and May 31st!ⁱ That is **Pentecost Sunday** when the power and the presence of the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles gathered in the Upper Room and they **WENT OUT!** It's our *Pentecost* of sorts as the doors of our churches are opened again! But not **WITHOUT** continued caution. We **NEED** to heed the words and wisdom of our leaders – all of them – and follow with duty and purpose!

From my perspective it will be a **GREAT WEEKEND** to be able to come together, **BUT**, there will be the continued need to **KEEP THE REGULATIONS – social distancing, no sign of peace, Communion in the hand, and the continued suspension of the Cup.** These are just a few items that will be of concern. More directives may be forthwith and you will be informed. So, plan to be **HERE** on Pentecost Weekend!

Fr. Mike swayed Fr. Bob and myself to *record* a short video on “*What keeps us going?*” during the pandemic. Fr. Bob's video will be posted sometime this afternoon or evening April 29th, but not sure of the time, mine will be posted on Thursday April 30th and Fr. Mike will come up from **BEHIND** the camera and his video will be posted on Friday May 1st! These could be Oscar winners, as the Film committee changed some of its requirements! *Hmmm!*

HERE'S SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO THIS MONTH:

The Holy Father issued a pastoral approach to forgiveness in the absence of a priest and following that message, an **Easter Penance Service** will be offered on the website, Facebook and YouTube on **Monday, May 4th at 6pm.** Plan to pray as a family for forgiveness. The Holy Father's message on forgiveness will be posted to the website.

A **May Crowning Prayer Service** will be on the website, Facebook and YouTube on **Wednesday, May 6th at 6pm.** Let's pray as a whole parish family to our Blessed Mother for her protection and continued strength.

REMINDER: School Families: Mr. Carner continues to be present in the school building for those who need to pick-up and drop off students' work/projects/etc. **He's IN the building from 7-8am ONLY!** Hope this isn't too much of an inconvenience. Call if you need anything.

Stay strong! Pray and pray some more! We will be together soon! *Fr. John*

ⁱ *The Catholic Conference of Ohio Bishops Letter is posted on the parish website.*