

ALL "PUBLIC" MASSES SUSPENDED BY BISHOP SERRATELLI

Fourth Sunday of Lent- March 22, 2020

FR. CHRIS' PRIVATE MASSES FOR the WEEK

SUNDAY, MARCH 22ND

8:30 A.M. Patrick Duffy

MONDAY, MARCH 23RD

8:00 A.M. Brigid McDonald & Brian Connolly

TUESDAY, MARCH 24TH

8:00 A.M. Josephine Porfido

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25TH

8:00 A.M. Dave Blake

THURSDAY, MARCH 26TH

8:00 A.M. Ignacio A. Rodriguez

FRIDAY, MARCH 27TH

8:00 A.M. Elizabeth Kurth

SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH

9:00 A.M. Anna V. Heaney

SUNDAY, MARCH 29TH

8:30 A.M. James Nicholl

SCRIPTURES

March 29, 2020- 5th Sunday of Lent

First Reading: This reading is a loving promise that the Lord will put His Spirit into His people and will let them live. (EZEKIEL 37: 12-14)

SECOND READING: PAUL REMINDS THE ROMANS THAT THEY ARE NOT PEOPLE OF THE FLESH, BUT PEOPLE OF THE SPIRIT BECAUSE THE SPIRIT OF GOD DWELLS IN THEM. (ROMANS 8: 8-11)

GOSPEL: IN GREAT DETAIL, JOHN TELLS THE STORY OF THE RAISING OF LAZARUS TO LIFE. UPON LEARNING OF THE DEATH OF LAZARUS, HIS DEAR FRIEND, JESUS, GOES TO COMFORT MARTHA AND MARY. AFTER PROCLAIMING, "I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE," JESUS GOES TO THE TOMB OF LAZARUS AND RESTORES HIM TO LIFE. (JOHN 11: 1-45)

STEWARDSHIP by the BOOK-March 22, 2020

The blind man was willing to let Jesus minister to him and willingly did all Jesus asked of him. The Pharisees were more resistant to His message, spending their time and energy trying to disprove the miracle. Am I more like the man born blind or the Pharisees?

MASS CARDS We are asked to pray for the dead & sick. The best way to do this is to have a mass celebrated in memory of a loved one, or for healing. Call the rectory 973-663-0211. **Please note-** offering is \$15.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS are suspended On Fridays during Lent.

RCIA next meeting Tues., March 31st 7:15pm in the Rectory.

BAPTISMS

are usually performed on the First Sunday of each month at 1pm. To arrange for a Baptism later this year, please call the rectory M-F - 973-663-0211.



NEW TO THE PARISH WELCOME! Please call 973-663-0211 Mon-Fri- 9:30-3 to become a registered members of our active parish.

Grocery shopping available during this crisis at Stop & Shop for Seniors 60 & up from 6-7:30AM, and Seniors 62 & up at Shoprite from 7-8:30am.

SUNDAY and EASTER OFFERINGS CAN BE MAILED IN TO: Star of the Sea Church, PO BOX 337, Lake Hopatcong, NJ, 07849. Thank you. Your support is greatly appreciated, **ESPECIALLY DURING THIS CRISIS.**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CCD Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/olsoslh>

ALL CCD CLASSES SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. UPDATES WILL BE POSTED AS WE RECEIVE THEM.

CHOIR PRACTICE:

Check your e-mail from Mrs. Therese Butler for updates on practices GOING FORWARD.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST Sunday, March 22nd is cancelled.

Please remember in prayer those who are sick:

Fr. John Connolly, Fr. Daniel Kelly, Patricia Schaffhauser, Betty Gardner, Lisa Ann Fisher, Joan Elise Butler, Susan Totino, Anne Nichols, Ellen Cohen, Geneva Kumar, Vanessa Espinoza, Quinn Gorman, Dan Iadarola, Frances Ferrara, Lillian Colello, Maryanne Drozdick, Dora Lavin, Mary Ann Miller, Christine Profaca, & all who are ill at this time. **We pray for recently deceased:** Ramon Fischetti, Claire Walloga, Fr. Eamon O'Hara, Fr. Tom Curran, and all who have died from COVID-19.



"The Lenten Companion - A Personal Encounter with the Power of the Gospel," meetings are suspended. Groups are advised to continue to read their books and the readings suggested. Anyone can go online to Ascensionpress.com for the videos of this series.

LENTE MASS PROGRAM-The Wednesday evening masses are cancelled until further notice.

OPERATION RICE BOWL: participate in *Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl, a program of prayer, fasting, learning and giving.* Please be sure to continue to follow



this simple yet powerful Lenten practice. Visit orb.crs.org for more info & additional resources to use.

***We will make a determination as to where & when the Rice Bowls can be dropped off at a later date. Thank you.

"Come Home to Healing" Monday night RECONCILIATION - **SUSPENDED** in the Paterson Diocese until further notice.



EASTER FLOWER- WE ARE GOING FORWARD WITH DECORATING THE SANCTUARY FOR EASTER. *Easter is our greatest feast- celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus & fitting that our sanctuary reflects this joy.* You can help by donating an *Easter flower* in memory of a loved one. **Donation of \$25.00** is requested. Envelopes are available in the church vestibule.



SICK OR SHUT IN-or know someone who is- unable to get to church to receive Communion? Please call the rectory at 663-0211 to set up a time for a Communion call.



***Saint Joseph Festa Dinner** is cancelled. Anyone who has not yet received their return payment, please contact Sue Sacino 973-601-3028.

UPDATES of Event times, Cancellations & RE-SCHEDULING during this COVID-19 crisis will be posted as decided upon.

Kerry Moore, Muriel Pazzaglia's daughter, is generously donating her time to our seniors who may need drives to doctors, grocery stores, and/or pick up of meds, groceries, etc. Please call her at 973-479-0830 and set up a time.

DISCOVERING THE TOMB OF JESUS

There is still a fascination with anything to do with Jesus, the Apostles, Mary & Joseph, & the world of the New Testament. Archaeologists continue to dig in Jerusalem, in opposition to wishes of the Islamic community, and in areas associated with Jesus. Because we believe so strongly in the Resurrection of Jesus – it is after all the center of our faith – if an archaeologist found the bones of Jesus & presented strong proof of this find, what would it do to our faith? Would we still go on believing in Jesus and His Resurrection? If a tomb were found marked Jesus, son of Joseph,” along with inscriptions indicating the final resting place of Mary, family members, and Mary Magdalene, would the underpinnings of our faith be whisked away? Would this usher in a time of confusion?

Something like this, in fact, has happened. The news of a book “The Jesus Family Tomb”, and a related Discovery Channel documentary produced by James Cameron (who brought us Titanic) should indicate that our beliefs may be in jeopardy. *Not so fast!* When we take a closer look things can look quite different. Certain things have been found including an OSSUARY – a box containing human bones – marked “Jesus, son of Joseph” and others marked with other names from the family of Jesus.

Scripture scholars tell us that the names, Joseph, Mary and Jesus were not just common names in 1st Century Palestine, but the *most common*. When I was growing up in Ireland, Paddy, Patrick & Mary were the most common names. Many of the Paddys had second names-Joe, Tom...to distinguish them, especially if their surnames, Walsh, Hughes, were common. It so happens that an ossuary marked “Jesus, son of Joseph” was found in 1931. Some scholars believe that the name Jesus in Aramaic on this ossuary is so difficult to identify with certainty that it could refer to a person with a different name. These New Testament names, Joseph, Mary & Jesus were not unique. If you visit cemeteries that date to the 1830’s or 1840’s certain names will frequently recur, Isaac, Nathan, Abraham. To conclude that an ossuary marked “Jesus, son of Joseph” contains the bones of Jesus of Nazareth is not warranted.

Then there is the question about the location of the tomb in Jerusalem. Why would a family from Nazareth in Galilee in the north of the country have a family tomb in Jerusalem? According to Israeli archaeologist Amos Kloner – who was in charge of the excavation of this site in 1980 – it is almost impossible that a family from Nazareth would have a family tomb in Jerusalem. He maintains that a Galilee family with no ties to Jerusalem would not have a tomb in that area.

There are further complications with regard to a tomb in Jerusalem. The Church of the Holy Sepulcher is located in the heart of old Jerusalem and this is the traditional site for the tomb of Jesus. This location is nowhere near the site of the newly discovered tomb which claims to possess the bones of Jesus. Local traditions which indicate the Church of the Holy Sepulcher as the site are usually more reliable than the information that has come to hand through this new tomb.

Another question arises. How likely is it that the Apostles didn’t know where Jesus was buried or that they didn’t pass on this information to the early Christians? The site of the tomb where Jesus was laid was an important location for the early Christians.

The really compelling proof of the Resurrection is not an empty tomb- something almost impossible to verify today with precision- but the transformation in the lives of the disciples. They went from being terrified followers of Jesus, members of a failed cult, to being on fire with a New Faith, ready to preach about Jesus and ready to die for this cause. Many gave their lives. It was only because they’d encountered the Risen Christ that could account for such a transformation.

(Based on article by James Martin, S.J. Star Ledger, 3/2/07)

*Sincerely in Christ,
Father Chris*



FOOD PANTRY- WILL REMAIN OPEN
TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS 11AM-12PM, AND
1:30-3:30PM call 973-663-0211 for appointment.-
OR IF YOU ARE DROPPING OFF FOOD.

Coordinator-Toni Tarigh. **Only items listed are needed.**
 Items needed: **CREAMY peanut butter, STRAWBERRY JELLY, JUICES, chicken broth, beets, spinach, CANNED FRUIT.**
Household: shampoo, conditioner, TP, paper towels.
Refrigerator: milk, yogurt; frozen foods.
 NOTE: Shoprite gift card donations are also accepted.
Thank you to the Bolcars and Judy Sterner for their donations.



ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY’S YANKEE CANDLE FUNDRAISER-

 to benefit our High School Scholarship Award Program is on now. We receive 40% of sales. Return your hard copy orders by Monday, March 30th to the Rectory mailbox on the back porch, or continue to Order online until July 1st at www.yankeecandlefundraising.com, enter Group Number 999979759, For more info call Sue Sacino at 973-601-3028 or sacinos@yahoo.com.

BUS TRIP for “TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD” - WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2020, 7pm show is STILL ON as of NOW. Hold off on Payments until April 25th. Updates as we have them.

SHOPRITE CARDS cards & are safer than carrying cash. Please consider helping us by buying these cards. In light of current events, please call the rectory to make arrangements for purchase and pick up. Thank you.



 **The Rosary is being recited daily after the morning Mass.**

- CORONAVIRUS DIOCESAN MANDATES**
- 1. The Bishop has suspended all public masses. (EWTN Channel 135 has Sunday mass at 8AM and 12PM)**
 - 2. A Private Mass will be celebrated 8AM during week, 9AM Saturdays, & 8:30am Sundays.**
 - 3. Now is the time to pray. CHURCH WILL BE OPEN UNTIL 5pm DAILY.**
 - 4. The Wednesday night Lenten masses will not be held.**
 - 5. No Stations of the Cross on Fridays of Lent.**
 - 6. Confirmation is suspended.**
 - 7. First Communion is deferred.**
 - 8. Funerals will go ahead as usual but are limited to 50 people. (see below)**
 - 9. Baptisms will also go ahead. (see below)**
 - 10. No decision on Holy Week and Easter as of 3/17.**
 - 11. Everyone should pray the Rosary for an end to this crisis.**

We pray for everyone’s safety, and for a complete resolution to this latest virus traveling the world. Updates will be posted as we receive them. Remain calm, be diligent and cautious, and know that Jesus is with us Always.



End of Bulletin. March 22, 2020

Please leave RELIGIOUS EDUCATION at the top of the Second Column

Please Leave "Discovering..." at the top of the Third column.

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Thanks for all your help.

Mandates from Bishop Serratelli after bulletin sent to press:

Deferral of Baptism

Until further notice all baptisms administered by the ordinary minister of the sacrament within the parish setting are deferred except in case of urgent necessity. Should an urgent necessity arise, the faithful should contact a priest immediately.

Funeral Rites

Because of the impossibility of limiting large gatherings of family and friends for a Funeral Mass, all Funeral Masses are to be discontinued until further notice. The Rite of Committal as established in the Order of Christian Funerals may be used for a graveside service with no more than 8 members of the immediate family present. All are to keep the recommended social distance. The priest is to offer a private Mass for the repose of the soul of the departed. A public Memorial Mass can be arranged for a later date when restrictions on the gathering of large crowds have been lifted'.

Derogation from Specific Previous Norms

The policies delineated above supersede and replace the norms regarding the celebration of Baptism and the observance of Funeral Rites in the decree issued on March 16, 2020 under my signature; all of the other norms of the March 16th decree remain in full effect with force of law.

Given this 19th day of March, 2020, the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



Most Reverend Arthur J. Serratelli, S.T.D., S.S.L., D.D.