



**BASILICA of
ST. MARY of the ANGELS**

MEDIA RELEASE | March 24, 2020

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EVENT: **Bells Call to Prayer**

WHERE: **Basilica of St. Mary of the Angels**
202 South Union Street, Olean, NY 14760

St. John R.C. Church
931 North Union Street, Olean, NY 14760

St. Philomena Church
27 Plymouth Avenue, Franklinville, NY 14737

WHEN: **Daily during Coronavirus Pandemic**

Fr. Pat is following the lead of Cardinal Blase Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago, in asking Catholic parishes to ring their church bells five times a day, as a means of calling all to unite in prayer during the COVID-19 pandemic. The prayer times will begin at 9 a.m. and continue every three hours each day, with the last bells rung at 9 p.m. Each of the five prayer times will be dedicated to a specific group particularly affected by the pandemic.

"When I read the story," said Fr. Pat, "I thought it to be a beautiful way to unite everyone in this time of uncertainty. We always find comfort when we reach out to others who are in need. And since we have been asked to self-isolate, this seemed like the answer - the ringing of the bells to remind us that we can offer prayer for everyone impacted by the virus." Fr. Pat has invited member churches of the GOAC to also consider this way of uniting us in prayer during this critical time. Cardinal Cupich suggested for parishes that don't have bells, parishioners can set their alarms to remind them to stop for a moment and unite in prayer. Prayers and intentions for the Bells Call to Prayer on page 2:



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BELLS CALL TO PRAYER

Intentions and Prayers

- 9 a.m. **Prayer for those infected with the virus and all who are sick**
Lord, place your healing hand on those who suffer illness.
Bring them to full health and ease their anxious hearts.
May our prayer and the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary
encourage them that they are not alone.
We ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN
- 12 p.m. **Prayer for health care workers and those attending to the sick**
Lord, we are ennobled by those who put their lives at risk in caring for
the sick. Keep them safe and embolden them when they are weary.
We ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN
- 3 p.m. **Prayer for first responders and essential workers**
Lord, we pray for those who run to danger to keep us safe and those
who serve the common good. Embrace them with your mantle of
protection and comfort the fears of their families.
We ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN
- 6 p.m. **Prayer for people of every nation and their leaders**
Lord, the pandemic opens our eyes to see each other as brothers and
sisters in one human family. We pray for people of every nation and
their leaders, asking that they be inspired to seek the good of all and
quell the voices of division. We ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN
- 9 p.m. **Prayer for those who have died today**
Lord, we grieve the passing of our sisters and brothers who have died
this day. We commend them to your tender mercy, confident that noth-
ing, not even death, will separate us from your love.
We ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN