

Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel - St. Thomas More

OLGC - 230 East 90th Street - STM - 65 East 89th Street
New York City, New York 10128



March 29, 2020

CLERGY

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Rev. William L Montgomery, Parochial Vicar
Rev. Michael O'Hara, OMI, Assisting Priest

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OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL

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ST. THOMAS MORE

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SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE - OLGC

Saturday Evening: 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Morning: 9:00 a.m.
10:15 a.m. - Spanish Mass
11:30 a.m. - Choral Mass
Sunday Evening: 6:00 p.m.

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE - STM

Saturday Evening: 5:45 p.m.
Sunday Morning: 8:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m. - Family Mass
Sunday Afternoon: 12:00 p.m. - Choral Mass
Sunday Evening: 5:45 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES - OLGC

Monday thru Friday: 9:00 am and 6:00 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am

WEEKDAY MASSES - STM

Monday thru Friday: 8:00 am and 12:15 pm
Saturday: 8:00 am and 12:15 pm

CONFESSIONS - OLGC

Monday thru Friday - 5:45 pm
Saturday 4:30 – 5:15 pm

CONFESSIONS - STM

Monday thru Friday
12:00 pm - 12:10 pm (before Mass)
Saturday 5:00 – 5:30 pm

BAPTISM

OLGC - 12:30 pm on Sunday
STM - 1:00 pm on Sunday
(Arrangements must be made six weeks in advance)

MARRIAGE

Arrangements should be made at least six months prior to the wedding

VISITS TO HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS

Our clergy are happy to visit.
Call the parish office to arrange.

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Fifth Sunday of Lent

As we prepare for Holy Week, today's readings remind us that Jesus' journey to the cross directly impacts each of us who believe in Jesus as the resurrection and the life. The first reading from the prophet Ezekiel was spoken during the early stages of Israel's lengthy exile in Babylon. Many of Ezekiel's oracles and prophecies were critical of Israel's sins and, in fact, helped Israel sort through the meaning of the Babylon invasion of Judah. But Ezekiel was also a prophet of great hope in which he foresaw the restoration of Israel, a period of renewal after exile in Babylon.

We hear in the second reading from Romans Paul speak directly to the role of the Spirit of God in his discussion on the dichotomy between the spirit and the flesh. Paul saw a fundamental tension between flesh (which causes us to sin) and spirit (which connects us to God).

The raising of Lazarus from the dead is the seventh and final sign in the Gospel of John that reveals Jesus' divine identity as the Word made flesh. The opening verses to this lengthy Resurrection narrative signal the main point of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead: "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." *Glory* is a key term in the Gospel of John. Adapted from Liturgical Publications Inc, Connect! Uniting Word & World, Dr. Daniel J. Scholz.

WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

Sun.: Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11;
Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7,17, 20-27, 33b-45
Mon.: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62
or 13:41c-62; Jn 8:1-11
Tues.: Nm 21:4-9; Jn 8:21-30
Wed.: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Jn 8:31-42
Thur.: Gn 17:3-9; Jn 8:51-59
Fri.: Jer 20:10-13; Jn 10:31-42
Sat.: Ez 37:21-28; Jn 11:45-56

Coronavirus Update

The chancery office will continue to monitor advisories from Catholic and other organizations regarding precautions on the Coronavirus and share any appropriate information with the faithful and the parishes.

All public Masses are canceled, until further notice. This includes Sunday Masses as well as weekdays. Churches are open for private prayer. Upon reasonable request, confessions may be heard, preferably by "appointment" at the parish office or some other appropriate place, like in the church when it is open for private prayer.

Prayer Resources in the Absence of Mass

As previously announced, all Masses in the Archdiocese of New York will be canceled due to continued concern surrounding the Coronavirus, and at the advice of medical experts. In light of these developments, members of the faithful may wish to observe Sunday as a day of prayer in the following ways:

Mass will be celebrated in Saint Patrick's Cathedral, and will be available on many cable systems via the Catholic Faith Network and its website

(<https://www.catholicfaithnetwork.org>), live streamed on the Saint Patrick's Cathedral website (<https://www.saintpatrickscathedral.org/live>), and broadcast on radio on The Catholic Channel of Sirius XM (Channel 129).

Act of Spiritual Communion: It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, Come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Prayers of Praise: In addition to praying for communion with the Lord, it is also important to take time to offer God our praise. This can be done by celebrating the Liturgy of the Hours or through a Celebration of the Word service, which can be celebrated at home. The following publishers have graciously made these services available for free and online at the following links:

Magnificat:

<https://us.magnificat.net/free>

<https://es.magnificat.net/gratis> (Spanish)

Magnificat Celebration of the Word Service:

<https://tinyurl.com/u3dzdyg>

Give us this Day:

<https://giveusthisday.org/Digital>

The Word Among Us:

<https://wau.org/meditations>

We still need your support

Because of the ongoing health emergency the Archdiocese of New York has directed us to cancel all Masses in our parish. And although we support this decision to help keep our Parishioners, Clergy and Staff as healthy as possible, your support is still needed.

To support our church today we urge you to enroll in the We Share collection system. It safe, simple and convenient and it gives you the option to contribute using a debit or credit card or your checking or savings account.

To enroll, use one of the following links:

Our Lady of Good Counsel

<https://olgstm.weshareonline.org/>

St. Thomas More

<https://thomasmorechurch.churchgiving.com/>

set up an account, choose a payment option, and customize your donation plan.

If you have any questions regarding this collection system, please send an email to the We Share Customer Support Team at weshare@4lpi.com or call (800) 950-9952.

We thank you for your continuing support and generosity.

Fr. Kevin V. Madigan
Pastor

Today's Readings (English and Spanish)
<http://www.usccb.org/calendar/index.cfm?showLit=1&action=month>

Today's Mass Readings (Audio - English)
<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings-audio.cfm>

USCCB President Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles invited "all the faithful to seek together the maternal intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe." His Excellency shared a powerful prayer to bring us spiritually together as a community of faith in these uncertain times.

• **Prayer Cards:**

<http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/usccb-president-reflection-and-prayer-during-coronavirus.cfm>

• **Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/usccb/videos/1431696590371969/>

• **Twitter:**

<https://twitter.com/USCCB/status/1238506116759371776?s=20>

• **Instagram:**

https://www.instagram.com/tv/B9rl4ReABSp/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link

Lastly, let us keep in touch with those most at risk (by phone) and keep each other and our world in prayer during these challenging times.

In addition to the Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the following prayers asking for the intercession of Our Lady may be offered:

Prayer to the Virgin Mary for Protection: O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Our Lady of New York, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.



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