

***NOTE: Some links embedded in this document have been disabled.  
We apologize for any inconvenience.***

## **A WORD FROM FR. LEWIS ...**

†  
HS  
JMJ  
**Palm Sunday**

My dear sisters and brothers in Christ,  
Greetings in the Lord.

We continue deepening our trust in God this Lent to bring a swift and positive conclusion to the threat of the novel Coronavirus and to restore His peace in our hearts and homes. This was the very hoped-for peace that the Israelites saw in Jesus as He rides triumphantly into Jerusalem on a donkey, the sign that the Messiah would free them from captivity. We of faith know that He is that very Messiah Who frees us from captivity to sin. It is why the Christ journeys from Heaven to earth, from Bethlehem to Nazareth, from Jerusalem to Golgotha, and from the tomb to eternal glory. And He calls us to pick up our cross daily and follow Him.

We are certainly bearing our daily cross these days, are we not?

One of those crosses is the recent loss of our beloved former pastor, Fr. Hilary Rodgers, who died April 1 from complications of the Coronavirus and an underlying condition. He will be remembered at a Memorial Mass to be celebrated in the parish at a yet-to-be-determined later date, once the suspension of public Masses has been lifted. Until then, let us all keep him and the Little Sisters of the Poor and the staff who cared for him these last several years in our prayers.

Bishop Malooly has sent us updates about palms and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Since these next two weeks are critical for “flattening the curve” and minimizing the potential spread of the virus, the Bishop, in line with many of bishops and archbishops throughout the United States and the world, has canceled the distribution of palms and suspended the Sacrament of Reconciliation, (for the Sacrament, with the exception of impending death) until the lifting of the closures of parish churches. At that future time, blessed palms will be made available to you and the Sacrament will once again be made available.

In the meantime, our Church teaches that those who desire the Sacrament but through no fault of their own are unable to participate in it, and who are properly disposed, that is, have contrition and sorrow for their sins, may still receive the graces from the Sacrament, even if under the pain of mortal sin, provided that they make a daily Act of Contrition and seek the Sacrament of Reconciliation when it is next made available.

The power of prayer is great indeed and even more powerful is the Mercy of God.

Masses for Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum and Easter are listed on the parish website, and my hope is to be able to livestream the Triduum. I will keep you updated.

For those who like to follow the readings of the Passion for Palm / Passion Sunday and Good Friday, you may follow along with your Magnificat print copy or online or access the readings at the website for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops: <http://usccb.org/bible/readings/040520.cfm> (for Palm Sunday) and <http://usccb.org/bible/readings/041020.cfm> (for Good Friday).

God bless and keep you safe.

You matter to me...and of course, to Him.

In Christ,  
Fr. Lewis

## OTHER NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

Let us continue to celebrate with joy the milestones in the lives of our parish family: [APRIL BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES](#)

### THANK YOU TO OUR BULLETIN SPONSORS!

We encourage you to continue to support the businesses that support our parish by sponsoring ads on the back of our printed bulletin ([click here to view their ads](#)). If you need something during this time which these businesses can provide, please be sure to reach out to them. We thank them for their generous support of our parish.

### GODCAST with Father Lewis

Don't forget to visit YouTube to subscribe to [Godcast with Father Lewis](#) to participate in daily and weekend Masses with Fr. Lewis and your parish family online. The link at the bottom of this message is for last Sunday's Mass. This Sunday's Mass should be available for viewing by 9am on 4/5. And, if you subscribe to the Godcast channel on YouTube you will receive alerts when new content is posted (and, you'll help us reach our goal of 1,000 subscribers which will allow us to begin livestreaming the Masses).

### [LA MISA EN ESPANOL](#)

Saints Peter & Paul Parish in Easton, MD posts the weekend Masses in Spanish on their Facebook page. Click [here](#) for a link to the page.

### MASS INTENTIONS

[Here is a link](#) to a list of the current Mass intentions through April 30th.

### MASS CARDS

If you are in need of a Mass card, please contact Lori Parks ([lparks@beparish.com](mailto:lparks@beparish.com)). Cards can be mailed to recipients on your behalf or to you directly.

### PARISH OFFERINGS, ONLINE GIVING and HELP IF YOU NEED IT

During this time when our churches are closed, many of our expenses continue. We also recognize that these times may find our parish families facing difficult financial circumstances. As you are able, offertory and other weekly collection donations can be mailed to the Parish Office (PO Box 459, Ridgely MD 21660). Or, you can sign-up for [WeShare](#), our parish's online giving platform, by visiting this link (and [here](#) is a simple guide to online giving). Should you have any questions about offertory or online giving, you can contact Marie Freeman at [mfreeman@beparish.com](mailto:mfreeman@beparish.com). Most importantly, if you find yourself in need of financial assistance, especially for things like food, rent or utilities, please contact the Parish Office via e-mail ([parishoffice@beparish.com](mailto:parishoffice@beparish.com) or [frlewis@beparish.com](mailto:frlewis@beparish.com)) or by phone (410-634-2253).

### HIS HOPE HAVEN NEEDS OUR HELP ...

*Below is a letter from shelter director, Lynn Keckler, with all the details.*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We have exciting news! Senior Haven, our transitional home for seniors waiting for permanent senior housing, is scheduled to open in time for Easter and we need your help! [Click this link](#) to see a list of items needed for the house. We would LOVE for our Christian family to come together to outfit our house and get it ready for our first 3 seniors.

Our wonderful volunteer, Miss Beverly Flater is coordinating all of the donations for Senior Haven. Please call or email her to let her know what items you can provide. You can reach her at 410-310-3003 or email [theflaters@comcast.net](mailto:theflaters@comcast.net). With the Governor's mandate, we are allowed to pick up items from you and take them to the Senior Haven. We do not want anyone to have to come out to us. We originally thought we'd have additional time, but God worked quickly! Amen! We'd like to have items in place (at the Senior

house) by Tuesday, April 7th. With a move-in date for the senior guests on April 11th, we will need to wipe down everything and let it sit for several days. During this time of social distancing and many unknowns, we know this is a lot to ask of our brothers and sisters in Christ. We are to be servants of Christ until Jesus comes.

Together, we can make an impact for our community. Once the national emergency is over, we want very much to have everyone come out and see the house. Until then we are so grateful for your prayers and support.

God's Blessings,  
Lynn Keckler, Director

**SIGN UP FOR THE ANGELUS (Online edition of The Dialog)**

The Dialog would like us to remind its online readers that they can sign up for free for the Angelus, the website's e-newsletter that typically comes out twice a week but has had additional editions during this heavy news cycle. Readers can sign up for the newsletter at the "Get our newsletter" link at the top of every page on [thedialog.org](http://thedialog.org). You can find a link to the Dialog website at the bottom of this message. And, [here is a link](#) to the schedule for the livestreaming of Holy Week and Easter Masses with Bishop Malooly from the Cathedral of St. Peter in Wilmington, DE.