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A WORD FROM FR. LEWIS ...

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HS

JMJ

Second Sunday of Easter

Joyful greetings in Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord and Savior!

ALLELUIA! He is risen. He Who is the Face of Mercy lives! ALLELUIA!

My dear fellow Saints-in-the-Making!

Hoping you are all remaining well, safe and healthy, I pray that you and yours are enjoying a glorious Easter Season.

In fact, this Sunday, the Second Sunday of Easter, is the final day of the Octave of Easter, that is the 8 days of Easter Week, from Easter Sunday to Divine Mercy Sunday.

The whole Octave, then, is considered one long Easter Day, and points to the unending and eternal day of Easter of the Resurrection to Eternal Life.

Elemental to the Resurrection and Eternal Life is our Lord's Mercy, which we commemorate most especially this weekend, as per the Vatican Decree of May 5, 2000, which fulfills Jesus' command through St. Faustina Kowalski, to whom He revealed His Divine Mercy, that a feast should be established honoring His Divine Mercy. The Church, in her wisdom, has established the Sunday after Easter in perpetuity as the Feast of the Divine Mercy.

We will, therefore, pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet after Mass this Sunday. The Chaplet prayers may be found here: <https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/chaplet>

In our Collect or Opening Prayer this weekend I will pray that we might all "grasp and rightly understand in what font we have been washed, by whose Spirit we have been reborn, and by whose Blood we have been redeemed."

The font of Baptism, the Spirit of rebirth and the Blood of our redemption all point to Jesus Christ, the Face of Mercy. Let us, therefore, be to one another what God is to us: Mercy.

*** In thanksgiving to God for you who have been able to continue your weekly donations either by mailing in envelopes or by direct donation through WeShare, I'd like to express my deepest gratitude. Your contributions are helping our parish. I'd like to invite us all, as we are able during this unprecedented time, to maintain our commitment to sustaining our parish financially.

A glorious Divine Mercy Sunday and Easter Season to you and yours.

I MISS YOU AND LOVE YOU ALL VERY MUCH AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU SOON.

ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! Let the holy anthem rise: Jesus Christ is risen. ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

Fr. Lewis

OTHER NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

We have a NEW CORONAVIRUS RESOURCE PAGE on our parish website. You can access it here. There is just too much information to include on our website homepage so we will now use this page to share resources and information specific to the Coronavirus pandemic. The Diocese of Wilmington also has a new Coronavirus Resource Page chock full of great resources. You can find that one by clicking here.

DO YOU HAVE PHOTOS OF FR. HILARY?

We are working on a slideshow of photos of Fr. Hilary from his time here at St. Benedict/St. Elizabeth as our pastor. Do you have photos of Fr. Hilary from sacramental celebrations (weddings, baptisms, First Communion, etc...) or other photos of Fr. Hilary to share? If so, please e-mail the digital picture files to Lori Parks at lparks@beparish.com. Once the slideshow is finished we will send a link to everyone. Thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS & MASS CARDS

Here is a link to a list of the current Mass intentions through April 30th.

If you are in need of a Mass card, please contact Lori Parks (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. 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 or frlewis@beparish.com) or by phone (410-634-2253).

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.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OFFERS MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

As we face this unprecedented time of economic instability and a global public health crisis, it is easy to feel overwhelmed and can lead to feelings of anxiety and depression. You do not have to face the fear of unemployment, safety for yourself and your family, on your own. You can access real help remotely through Catholic Charities' Behavioral Health Services, which is currently accepting new clients. Feel free to pass this information on to your staff and parishioners. Click here for more information.

JUST FOR FUN.... Coloring Page 1 Coloring Page 2

Here are some more coloring pages from Br. Mickey McGrath to celebrate the Easter season. Color them for a stress-busting activity and hang your completed masterpieces on your fridge as a daily reminder of God's love or send your works of art to someone else with a quick note to brighten their day.