

## A WORD FROM FR. LEWIS ...

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Sixth Sunday of Easter

Dear Fellow Saints-in-the-Making,

In this weekend's Gospel, Jesus says to His disciples, "I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you." With Governor Hogan's surprise and unexpectedly early announcement about the possibility of reopening our churches and returning to communal worship, Jesus' words ring even more joyfully to our hearts and ears.

In his Maryland Strong: Roadmap to Recovery plan, Governor Hogan states that beginning at 5PM on Friday, May 15, the Stay-at-Home mandate will be lifted with specified guidelines and limitations for communal gatherings, including the possibility of opening churches at 50% capacity. He recommends a "Safer-at-Home" approach. The Bishop of the Diocese has recommended prudence and will be sharing diocesan guidelines in the coming week that will place further restrictions on re-opening. This means that our church doors will remain closed this weekend, May 16-17, but we will still live-stream Mass at 9AM May 17.

We will all need to be patient as this gradual process will take time and effort on all our parts. You have always been exceptional people: people of exceptional faith and people of exceptional heart. I appreciate your persevering patience and cooperation as well as your prayers.

As your physical and spiritual health is of utmost concern to me, I assure you that, following Jesus' reassuring words of the Gospel this weekend, I am working on coordinating the safest, simplest, and most fair way of welcoming you back to church and the Sacraments so that we might all be safely reunited at the altar of the Lord. I will keep you informed of updates.

Before closing, I would like to thank all who have been able to maintain offertory these past two months and all who have with their spiritual offertory, kept the parish in prayer, just as necessary if not more. I know these are difficult and financially demanding times, so your sacrifice means all the more to me and to the parish. In particular, I would like to thank those who have contributed to the parish without being members; several viewers of our live-streamed Mass, the Godcast daily Mass and Making Space for Grace who live in Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and Virginia have responded with appreciation by sending donations to BE Parish. Please, let us all keep them in our prayers of gratitude and petition.

May you always remember Jesus' words: "I will not leave you; I will come to you."

God love you,  
I do...and I miss you.

Joyfully in Christ our Risen Savior,  
Fr. Lewis

## OTHER NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

**Si tienen necesidad de recursos hispanofonos, guardan este vínculo, por favor.** [Haga clic aquí.](#)

In this latest edition of the Del Hispano Magazine of which the Diocese of Wilmington Hispanic Ministry maintains a section, you will find a comprehensive list of resources available to Hispanics in need by [clicking here](#).

### REMEMBERING IN PRAYER THIS WEEK...

Patricia Brady ~ Peggy Brittingham ~ Joan & Frank Mollick ~ Kathleen Green ~ Patricia McWilliams ~ Helen Dill ~ Cheryl Harris ~ Judy Edmonston ~ Edie Crank ~ Patricia Freedman ~ Michael Alt ~ Michael Keating ~ Christina Jewell ~ Debbye Jackson ~ Kenny & Debbie Winn ~ Clark Johnson ~ Janet Kibler ~ Karen Coward ~ Kelly Presnell ~ Ron Safchick ~ Rita Miedl ~ Nelson Owens ~ Roy Dean ~ Tobey McWilliams ~ Agnes Metzler ~ Cynthia Makas ~ Ernie Blazejak ~ Alex Wood ~ James Coleman ~ George Simacourbe ~ Delaney Tull ~ Su Lappin ~ Al Buccalo ~ Maria & Keith Poptanich ~ Mark Sellman ~ Ben Shirley ~ Georgia Smithmyer ~ Doris Sharp ~ Kevin Flynn ~ Frances & Edward Cartrette ~ Rob Pasciak ~ Ann Blazejak ~ Gage & Shawn Kelley ~ Benjamin Pin & Family ~ Ruth Susini ~ Rita Kucharski ~ Julia Seiler ~ Ginny Lewis ~ Butch Petroski ~ Michael Petroski ~ Ruth McCullough ~ Mary Jo Clancy ~ Gary Stewart ~ Jeffrey Kinnamon ~ Carmen Guzman ~ Gavin Hood ~ Craig Kelley ~ Ron Champagne ~ Larry Close ~ Anne Ogletree ~ Joan Dent ~ Rose Marie Wood ~ Theresa Morcombe ~ Mike Cirillo

Do you know someone in need of prayer? Let us know and we'll add their name to the list. Has someone on the list experienced healing? Let us know if we can remove their name and offer prayers of thanksgiving.

### MASS INTENTIONS & MASS CARDS

[Here](#) is a link to a list of the current Mass intentions through May 31st. 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).

### 2020 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL ~ Seeing Christ in the Faces of Others

In today's Gospel, Jesus says to His disciples, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments". Scripture teaches us that serving Christ is a fundamental part of our Catholic faith and that serving the Lord means serving others. When we give of ourselves on behalf of others, the Holy Spirit works through us and Jesus is served. In these continuing difficult times, it becomes clearer that our role as Church is more critical than ever in helping those in need. Bearing witness to poverty, illness and injustice and responding in the spirit of Christ are the hallmarks of the many ministries supported by the Annual Catholic Appeal. For those of you who have given to this year's Appeal, thank you for your generosity. For those who have not, please prayerfully consider

supporting this important effort. Visit [cdow.org/annualcatholi...](http://cdow.org/annualcatholi...) to learn more about the Annual Catholic Appeal. And, be sure to view [this brief video](#) offering moving testimony from recipients of featured Appeal supported ministries.

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SPONSOR COLLECTION OF ITEMS FOR LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR in NEWARK, DE**

The St. Joan of Arc Council Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a food and supply drive for the Little Sisters of the Poor in Newark, DE. Prior to his death on April 1, Fr. Hilary resided with the Little Sisters at their Newark home, the Jeanne Jugan Residence. Parishioners are asked to assist, as they are able, in collecting items from [this list](#) and delivering them at the following times:

- Friday, May 15th – 5:00-7:00p.m. - St. Benedict Parish Hall
- Sunday, May 17th – 11:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. – St. Benedict Parish Hall

Items may also be dropped off at the home of Dan & Marlinda Tuel, 24276 Asbury Drive, Denton. Please call Dan first at 410-924-0596 and he will meet you in the driveway. It would be great to fill a couple of pick-up trucks in support of the Little Sisters. If you are unable to go out to shop, cash donations would also be greatly appreciated and will be used to purchase items off the list. The Knights thank you for your help with this project and your prayers for the Little Sisters. Helping one another and our neighbors in need are signs that God is working in and through us.

Thank you and may God Bless you!

Dan Tuel ~ Grand Knight, St. Joan of Arc Council

### **MAGNIFICAT OFFERING SPECIAL \$5 SUBSCRIPTIONS**

In an effort to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus, when we return to public worship you will not find hymnals in the churches. Therefore, we would like to share with you that MAGNIFICAT is offering special \$5 subscriptions to enable the faithful to follow the liturgy with personal copies of either a printed or digital edition of MAGNIFICAT. New or returning subscribers can choose between a 3-month print subscription (including digital access) or a 6-month digital subscription (online or iOS and Android App). Details are available at [magnificat.com...](http://magnificat.com...) MAGNIFICAT includes daily prayers for morning and evening, texts of the Mass, meditations on the daily Gospel, lives of saints, spiritual articles, art commentaries, and more. Complimentary access is currently available for all MAGNIFICAT editions and MagnifiKid! through May.

*\*NOTE: Subscriptions ordered in May will begin with the July issue. Digital access is immediate.*

### **HONORING OUR BLESSED MOTHER WITH SONG**

We offer our thanks to Jack & Eileen Smithmyer for the beautiful musical reflections that they have offered over the past several weeks. This week's song, O Holy Mary, is offered in honor of Mary as we celebrate our Blessed Mother in a special way throughout the month of May. You will find a link to the video [here](#).