

Blessed Sacrament Saint Boniface Saint Mary's Southeast Rochester Catholic Community

www.southeastrochestercatholics.org

March 29, 2020
The Fifth Sunday of Lent



WELCOME EVERYONE: No matter who you are, no matter where you've been, no matter what you've done, you are invited, accepted and most welcome in our parish communities. We hope Christ will bring fullness into your life, and that we can provide you with the spiritual support and information you need.



5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live."
- Jn 11:2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

Mass Schedule

Blessed Sacrament
534 Oxford Street
Rochester, New York 14607

259 Rutgers Street (mailing)
Rochester, New York 14607
(585) 271-7240

Saint Boniface
330 Gregory Street
Rochester, New York 14620

259 Rutgers Street (mailing)
Rochester, New York 14607
(585) 271-7240

Saint Mary's
15 St. Mary's Place
Rochester, New York 14607

259 Rutgers Street (mailing)
Rochester, New York 14607
(585) 271-7240
(585) 442-7517 Fax

"All public Masses in the Diocese of Rochester have been suspended until further notice."

"Those seeking to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance in individual confessions, please contact one of our parish priests to schedule a time."

Parish Offices are located in the Rectory of Blessed Sacrament Church
Hours are Monday through Friday 8:30am-4:30pm



Download our app! Find it on iTunes or Google Play!



Nursery available at Blessed Sacrament & St. Mary's at both Masses. Ask the Ushers to direct you.



Low gluten hosts available. Check in the Sacristy before Mass.

facebook



Online Giving

southeastrochestercatholics.org
Click on Ways You Can Give Button

Weekly Calendar/Parish Events

All scheduled activities are cancelled until further notice.

WATCHING MASS AT HOME

While we are unable to attend Mass due to the Coronavirus outbreak, the following options for televised Masses are available:

Sunday 5:30am on News10 NBC (WHEC)
Sunday 8:00am on MeTV (Over-the-Air 10.2 & Cable channel 1245)

Mass may be streamed anytime on WHEC.com

Mass can also be seen daily on EWTN at 8:00am

You may also join Bishop Robert Barron for daily Mass at:

<https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass>

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT, On September 12, 2019, the Diocese of Rochester ("Diocese") filed for protection under Chapter 11 of the United States Code (the "Bankruptcy Code").

The Bankruptcy Court has established August 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. (prevailing Eastern time) as the deadline to file proofs of claim against the Diocese (the "Bar Date").

If you have a claim against the Diocese, including, without limitation, a claim related to sexual abuse committed by any person connected with the Diocese, you must file a claim on or before the Bar Date.

Please visit <https://case.stretto.com/rochesterdiocese> or call (855)347-3773 for more information on how to file your proof of claim.

BULLETIN BLOOPER HUMOR

Enjoy some bulletin bloopers from churches all over the country.



Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Devotions, Liturgies and Mass Intentions

Please note: Our parish priests will offer Mass, without the presence of the faithful, for the following intentions.

Saturday, March 28

Paul Stack by Suzanne Stack

Sunday, March 29

Edith Ehmann by Tony Califano
Walter & Helen Davis by Joan Davis
Bonnie Spear by the End of Life Team

Monday, March 30

Grace Murray by John & Judy Lynd

Tuesday, March 31

Wayne Olson by Elaine VanderBrook

Wednesday, April 1

Jane M. Dellefave by Chris Walsh

Thursday, April 2

Friday, April 3

Saturday, April 4

Sunday, April 5

Laura Laskey by Tony Califano
Frank DiCesare by Joe & Carol Manzo
John Nicolosi by Peter Romeo
Colleen Cleary Bavosa by the Cleary Family
Marguerita Pompeii by the McCranks

Please Pray for those in need of healing: Michelle Wade, Layla Tremble, Margaret Nordbye, Tina Wagner, Louise Fletcher, Carla Logan, David Ballerstein, Tim Crosier, Mary Kniep Hardy, Michael Boothby, John Larish, Joan Hacker, Bridget Toth, Larry Grasta, Larry Schlosser, Patricia Hynes, Sr. Marilyn Williams, Muriel Dech, Marilyn Dietz, Silvia Centanni, Landon August Coia, Frances Carney, David Boothby, Barbara Fransen, Sheila Keeler, Thomas Stalts, Brian Dzuba, Carol Childs, Carm Donovan, Carla Spooner, Kathy Haigbt, Diane Kannel, Gwen Walsh, Diane Vadney, Mike Wade, Jeanne Tyler, Jean Milne, Pat Nicolosi, Theresa Sullivan, Jim Melito, Ruth Smith, Bob Miller, Rick Gorman, Maya Johnsen, Scott Miller, Loretta Rose Doyle, Jerry Lynch, Sam Lanzafame, Kitty Jensen.

Please help us keep our list accurate by calling as soon as possible when you or a loved one would like to be removed from the list.

Please Note: Due to HIPAA regulations, hospitals are not allowed to give out the names of patients when they call to report that our parishioner is in the hospital. If you or a loved one is in the hospital, please contact the church office directly to let us know.

**Bulletin content is due by noon on Tuesday.
Please send bulletin info to Kathy Marfione at
Kathy.marfione@dor.org**



Readings for April 5, 2020
Palm Sunday of the Lord
MT 21: 1-11
IS 50: 4-7
PHIL 2: 6-11
MT 26: 14-27

WAYS YOU CAN GIVE DURING SHUTDOWN

- ✦ **Use our online giving portal.** Simply go to our website, southeastrochestercatholics.org and click on the "Ways you can Give" button on the homepage, and select which church you would like your online giving to support. Giving can be done with a debit to your bank account or by adding a credit card. If you need assistance setting up your account, please email Diane Pawlik at diane.pawlik@dor.org.
- ✦ **Set up automatic payments through your bank.** Your bank can send weekly or monthly checks directly to the Business Office. Contact your bank to set this up. Checks should be mailed to 259 Rutgers Street, Rochester, NY, 14607.
- ✦ **Set up automatic weekly or monthly ACH payments (St. Mary's)** Please contact Molly Hedges at molly.hedges@dor.org and she can assist you with this option.
- ✦ **Continue to mail your envelopes/checks.** Mail checks directly to the business office at 259 Rutgers Street, Rochester, NY 14607. Please do not mail cash.

PARISH COUNCIL CORNER

I have been on Parish Council since September, 2019. After being nominated, I met with the other candidates and members. We prayed and shared our skills and reasons for wanting to be on Parish Council. Names were put into a hat then drawn by lottery. A typical meeting begins with prayer, we vote to accept the minutes from the last meeting, then we move on to the agenda for the evening. Although we have no decision-making power, the meetings are lively and informative and PC members are encouraged to submit items for discussion. It's a privilege to be involved in the conversations, especially this year with all of the changes taking place in our parishes and in the larger Catholic Church. At the most basic level, our role as Parish Council members is to offer insight and wisdom to the priest administrator based on our professional or life experience. We offer input on developing a plan for the future and see that it takes shape over the course of the year. Our biggest undertaking this year was the formulation of two Task Forces: one to determine the state of the ministries that take place on all the campuses, and another to assess the condition, future needs, and value of the 14 buildings that comprise the Southeast Parishes. This June there will be three Parish Council members who will have completed their three year commitment. They may opt to serve for another three years but will have to be selected again by lottery. That leaves three possible openings for new members. I can't imagine a more significant time to be involved in this ministry. If you know someone you would like to nominate for Parish Council, or if you would like to submit your own name, I encourage you to do so.

Bernie Heveron

Parish Census Moves on to Emails and Phone Calls

Since October, we have been asking those who regularly attend our churches to fill out a new census form whether they previously have registered or not. We have been seeking this information in order to update information that is vital to determining the needs of our parishioners, planning services, staffing needs, and projecting our budgets. By having everyone register for the first time or re-register after many years, we will have a better sense of who is with us as we plan our future together. Hard copies of the registration form have been available in church or through the parish office. And an online form may be found on our homepage:

www.southeastrochestercatholics.org

Our efforts so far have only secured responses from roughly 29% of the 1,975 households on our parish census rolls. An additional 52 newly registered households have been added.

In effort to reach out to households that have yet to complete a form, our Census Committee is in the process of sending out an email to previously registered households on our census rolls. At the same time, parishioners have started phoning previously registered households on our census rolls for whom we do not have an email address.

We ask for your cooperation and support of these efforts. Completing the registration process now will save us having to pester you with additional phone calls, mailings and home visits. Please take a moment now to let us know that you are with us. Thanks!

SHARING IS CARING

Since we are all spending a little more time at home for awhile, perhaps you've had additional time to prepare some of your favorite recipes...If you'd like, please share a favorite recipe and perhaps a picture with us that we can pass along to fellow parishioners in the next bulletin. Or email newsletter.



Also, have some fun activities that you have been using to occupy the kids or yourselves during this period of confinement? Share your ideas with your fellow parishioners.

Email your recipe and any pictures, as well as any ideas for kid's activities to Kathy Marfione at kathy.marfione@dor.org. We'd love to hear from you!

One idea

We can start out with "The Flour Game", courtesy of Fr. John's Mom! Just begin with a mound of flour on some newspaper or large plate. Mound the flour high enough so that a toothpick stuck in the middle of the mound of flour stands up straight. Using kitchen implements like a butter knife, each person takes a turn scraping some of the flour away from the mound, while keeping the toothpick standing upright. The game continues until the toothpick falls, that person loses, and the game is over.

A Word From Father John...

How was your first full week of “work from home/stay at home”? I find it unsettling to have so much change so rapidly, while I have not gone anywhere. As a result, I am surrounded by many familiar things that feel so different. I have not said a “private” Mass, since I was practicing as a seminarian in my room before I was ordained. It’s like those scenes in movies where a character is in familiar spaces that are usually crowded with people, and suddenly no one is there. I look out my windows and there are no or very few cars parked on the street or in nearby parking lots that are usually full. And the few cars that are there seem to be practicing social distancing with one or more spaces between each one. Where am I?

I imagine that it must have been something similar for Mary, Martha and Lazarus amid the events in our gospel passage this Sunday. One minute Mary and Martha are grieving the loss of their brother, Lazarus, who is dead and buried in his tomb. Then after delaying for two days, Jesus finally arrives and everything gets turned upside down. Somehow being dead is just akin to being asleep? Someone just needs to wake him up? Wouldn’t it be nice if someone would come along for us right now and wake us from the nightmarish dream like state we find ourselves in the midst of this pandemic?

Both sisters seem to admonish Jesus for not preventing the tragedy that has befallen Lazarus, saying “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” Yet, as Jesus reveals to his disciples and us, Jesus is glad that he was not there, so that we may believe. Think about how that rocks our expectations and assumptions about God. How many of us have felt let down by God not coming to the rescue for our loved one or ourselves? Why didn’t God save him, her, them...us? How could God let them die? What we discover is that Jesus’ not coming was by design in order to reveal something more about who Jesus is for us: “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.”

Think about that for a minute. Many of us want to live forever – “I’m not ready to die.” We might even place our hope in having our life restored in heaven after death. Yet, what Jesus is saying to us is that life apart from belief is worth nothing. In fact, in the above statement, the key is not life, but belief. Belief is necessary, if one has any hope of living after death. A life of belief never dies. “Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?” Coming to believe in the God of Jesus Christ is more important than life itself. Therefore, Jesus could lay down his life for us on the cross, so that we might come to believe in him and thus share in his resurrection and his life in God.

Jesus coming turns our world and our lives upside down. In the upside down world that we find ourselves, can we pause to look for Christ coming among us to bring us to belief in him and in the life that he has to share with us in God? In all of this, we may be tempted to ask, “Where am I?” As we do so, we inevitably come to ask, “Where is God in all of this?” Our current circumstances will push us to discover who our God/god is. In whom or what do we place our faith and trust? Ourselves? Money? Power? Position? Privilege? Prestige? We may think ourselves lucky if we imagine that those things have aided us in skating through the difficulties and challenges that we are currently facing. Yet, that would be unfortunate. For we would miss an opportunity to come to know and grow in our belief in the God of Jesus Christ. That is the only God who has the power and will to save us and restore us to new life, a life of faith that

leads to the glory and joy of heaven. And we can only avail ourselves of that life, if we come to believe in that God that Jesus Christ reveals to us and whose Spirit dwells within us.

As our lives become unmoored in the midst of this pandemic, we like Mary, Martha and Lazarus will discover that the anchor, the rock and sure foundation of our lives is Jesus Christ and his Spirit, the Holy Spirit, who God has put into us that we might live. When we are able to re-center ourselves on that reality, we have a better sense of who we are and who God is for us. And we need no longer concern ourselves with asking, “Where am I?” For we can rest assured, believing that we are in the hands of God whose Son died that we might live and whose Spirit dwells in us for life.

As we endure the challenges and difficulties of our present circumstances, we offer in prayer the words of our Responsorial Psalm: “[We] trust in the Lord...let [us] wait for the Lord.” Like Mary, Martha and Lazarus, after we pass through the events of these days, we will be changed. May God give us the grace to allow that change to bring us to believe in him more and more.

Peace and blessings!

Yours,
Fr. John

PS – Sharing a little humor that came my way this week: “First time in human history, we can save the human race by laying in front of the T.V. and doing nothing. Let’s not screw this up.” Happy staying at home and social distancing!

PPS - Beware of scammers: I have been alerted by a number of people that they have received emails and texts from people claiming to be me asking for emergency help. The request usually involves you having to purchase iTunes gift cards. I would never ask you to do such a thing. The donations that I need us to make are to the collection at our parish churches. If you receive a message from someone claiming to be me, then please take the time to stop and verify with someone else on our parish staff that the request is genuine. Most likely, it is just someone trying to scam you. Here is some advice that we received from the Diocesan Information Technology Department:

Please take the following precautions:

Do not click on links or open any attachment in email without verifying its authenticity.

Use trusted sources such as legitimate government websites for information on COVID-19.

Do not reveal any personal or financial information in email or over the phone.

Do not respond to email solicitations.

Verify a charity’s authenticity before making a donation.

Do not purchase gift cards based on an email you receive. Verify by phone call before spending your money.

RENEWING AND REFRESHING ADULT FAITH

God Speaks... New Life is Discovered

Last Easter, praying for God's help, I began my faith journey. I tried several churches but found none I was drawn to. Then one day I passed St Mary's Church, surrounded by its beautiful gardens, and was led to attend a Sunday Mass.

I felt some trepidation because I was a Presbyterian, but I needn't have worried. I was met by a friendly greeter who began to chat with me. When I mentioned that I was looking for a church, she introduced me to Karen Huonker, who explained her journey in the church. After talking with Karen that morning, I joined RCIA.

The group was so encouraging and friendly that I felt a part of the church community. Together we were strengthening our relationship with God and learning about the Catholic faith. I also joined a Bible discussion group studying the Word, its meaning, and sharing how the scriptures impacted our lives. I am so grateful to the people in the church community who have helped light the way.

Looking back, the changes in my spiritual life, and thus my daily life, have been profound. I try to begin each day with a quiet time of prayer and contemplation. I look out the window at this beautiful world we are privileged to live in and give thanks for the coming day. When someone asks me how I chose this particular path and the Catholic Church, I can only tell them "God spoke to my heart and I just followed."

—Patricia Sales

INSIGHTS, CHALLENGES AND PRAYERS FROM THE SUNDAY GOSPELS TO INSPIRE OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

Each week we are posing a question based on the gospel for the week to stimulate our religious imagination and help us center our prayers during Lent. We are invited to ponder this week's question as we read or listen to the Gospel for this Sunday, the Fifth Week of Lent about the Raising of Lazarus (John 11:1-45). Today we are caught in the bondage of fear and uncertainty, unable to wrap our minds around the loss of social freedom and control over our own lives. Like Lazarus we long to hear Jesus calling us to come out of our tombs and into a brand new life. What prevents us from hearing and responding to that call? Am I willing to trust God with my very life?



MINISTERIAL STAFF

Fr. John Loncle, Pastor, Fr.John.Loncle@dor.org
Fr. Mike Mayer, Parochial Vicar, Fr.Mike.Mayer@dor.org
Fr. Felician Sierotowicz, In Residence, Fr.Felician.Sierotowicz@dor.org
Fr. Ed Palumbos, Assisting Priest, Fr.Ed.Palumbos@dor.org
Deacon David Palma, Pastoral Associate, David.Palma@dor.org
Sr. Kathleen Wayne, RSM, Director of Faith Formation, Kathleen.Wayne@dor.org
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Mary Jo Lightholder, Director, Supper Program, Maryjo.Lightholder@dor.org
Youth Ministry, SERCC.youth@dor.org

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Molly Hedges, Director of Finance, Molly.Hedges@dor.org
Diane Pawlik, Administrative Assistant, Diane.Pawlik@dor.org
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Emily Sinicropi, Bookkeeper, Emily.sinicropi@dor.org
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PARISH MUSICIANS

Chelsea Barton, Director of Liturgical Music, Chelsea.Barton@dor.org
Margaret-Mary Owens, Associate Director of Liturgical Music, Margaret.Mary.Owens@dor.org

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Dave Bergeron, St. Boniface
Nick Caines, Blessed Sacrament
Walter Miller, St. Mary's
Diane Kannel, Gardener, St. Mary's

2019-20 CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL AS OF 3/24/2020

	Blessed Sacrament	St. Boniface	St. Mary's
Goal	\$68,823	\$26,322	\$49,313
Pledged	\$57,769	\$26,098	\$44,757
% of Goal	84%	99%	91%
# / % of Households Participating	169 / 19%	95 / 24%	127 / 20%

Until the end of the NYS Mandate to work from home, CMA figures will not be updated.

PARISH COLLECTION INFORMATION

	Actual	Budget	Variance
March 22, 2020			
Blessed Sacrament	\$ 7,383*	\$ 7,300	\$ 83
St. Boniface	\$ 530	\$ 3,350	(\$ 2,820)
St. Mary's	\$ 2,310	\$ 5,400	(\$ 3,090)
Year-to-Date			
Blessed Sacrament	\$250,678	\$277,400	(\$ 26,722)
St. Boniface	\$118,522	\$127,300	(\$ 8,778)
St. Mary's	\$193,992	\$205,200	(\$ 11,208)

**Includes a significant Required Minimum Distribution in the weekly collection amount that is not likely to be repeated on a weekly basis.*

Thank you for your faithful and generous support! We depend on your thoughtfulness and commitment. God bless you.

Interested in having valuable parish information delivered right to your inbox? Stay connected with us! Sign up for the Southeast Rochester Catholic Community's weekly email newsletter. Signing up is easy! Email Kathy Marfione at kathy.marfione@dor.org to get added to the list!

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