

St. Patrick's Catholic Church

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Fr. John Kleinschmidt, Administrator
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Fr. Ted Lewandowski, Mass Celebrant
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Fifth Sunday of Lent March 29, 2020

At this time, ALL Masses, Rel. Ed., Bible Studies, and activities are cancelled until mid-April when the situation will be re-evaluated.

If you are comfortable with EMAIL, please email the Parish your name & current email address. We have some, but not all who use email.

For updates and pertinent presentations and information, please visit our Face Book page. Search for 'St Patricks Lebanon'.

Check our website for bulletin, FB feed, Diocesan updates, etc.

Watch for updates on online giving. We encourage you to give what you can during this time, as the Church will continue her ministries. Until online giving is up and running, please mail your monthly contribution to:

St. Patrick's Parish, N5705 Cty Rd. T, New London, WI 54961.

From the staff, please know that you are in our prayers. Please pray for us. Stay safe and stay healthy in these unprecedented times. We are available for any needs via email (stpatrickslebanon@charter.net), or phone (920-982-5475). Messages will be checked daily.

Click on Diocesan website for COVID-19 updates, letters, and directives from the Bishop. search "Diocese of Green Bay"

Fr. John will be live streaming Masses. Check back via social media for updates and links. To participate in daily Mass, watch 'Mass from Bishop Barron's Chapel'

This is the seventh week of the **2020 Bishop's Appeal**. Keep the donations coming, we are doing great! As of 3/24, 44 parishioners have donated \$8,330.00. If you have made out a check to St. Patrick's but it's a donation to the Bishop's Appeal, those dollar amounts will be included in later totals. To make a gift to the Bishop's Appeal contact our parish, visit the Bishop's Appeal website at www.catholicfoundationgb.org/give, or call Tammy toll-free at 877-500-3580, ext. 8123.

COUNCIL MEMBERS NEEDED: No one wants to stretch themselves anymore, because we all have very full plates! However, we are in need of people to step up to volunteer to be on the councils. This is what keeps this parish maintained. It's a two year commitment with six meetings a year. Please pray about volunteering to be put on the ballot for either the Pastoral Council or the Finance Council. Thank you for your consideration, and let Barbara Tate know of your interest. The ballots will be presented in May.

Greetings from Fr. John Kleinschmidt:

The Power of Jesus is Life and Resurrection

"If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit dwelling in you." This Sunday, the Gospel shows our Lord Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. To Jesus, the physical death of Lazarus was not real death, but simply a "falling asleep." Our Lord Jesus is so full of Life, death has no power over Him. His great desire is that we share in His Power of Life... that we would even lose our fear of physical death, knowing God our Father has us in His hands by the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus tells Martha, "*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.*" We see this very much in the lives of the saints; that the more a heart believes in Jesus Christ, living in the Gift of Faith, the less they experience physical death as death. Because of Jesus and His Grace, the saints more and more experienced physical death as a new birth... a stepping even deeper into Infinite Life and Love.

In this current fight against this virus, we certainly can strive to be safe... we can work to protect our families and loved ones... we can do everything in our power to be prudent and careful in our acts of love for our neighbor, all the while placing everything, our very lives into the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Through His Sacred Heart, through His Grace, we are in the Eternal Father's Hands!

We should not fear this virus. We should only fear sin. When we allow our hearts too much to fear anything else besides sin, often the very things we fear or worry about have a way of coming closer. Like the apostles in the storm, or Peter when he got out of the boat and began fearing the wind and the waves... it is when he focused on his fears that Peter began to sink. But He called out to Jesus, "Lord, save me" and Jesus lifted him up. Even in this current storm, Jesus says to us, "Be not afraid... I am here. Live in My Gift of Faith." Let us walk on the wind and waves of this current storm, focused on Jesus who walks on water. He is surrounded by Light, and when we focus on Him... fear is driven away, His Peace strengthens us, and we too can walk on water.

