

Sunday Prayer at Home

**Thirtieth Sunday
of Ordinary Time**

October 25, 2020

*For use by St. Mary's Parishioners
Immaculate Conception Church, Alton, IL*

Explanation

We have resumed public Mass at St. Mary's, abiding by social distancing requirements. The dispensation from Sunday Mass remains in effect. This booklet of readings and prayers is designed to help your family keep the Lord's day holy, even if you do not go to church.

It is most fitting for the father of the house to lead these prayers, encouraging the participation of as many members of the family as possible in the various readings and intercessions.

In place of the Eucharist, pray an Act of Spiritual Communion (included). Desire to receive the living presence of God into your souls. This may be done many times each day without limit. Holy Communion is distributed on Sunday on 4th Street from 11:45am-12:30pm, one car at a time. Those at higher risk should continue to shelter at home.

The Vatican has decreed special conditions for receiving plenary indulgences during this time (<https://bit.ly/2xj6pAw>). The prayer service outlined in this booklet satisfies the conditions, together with a firm desire to receive the Eucharist and sacramental absolution in confession as soon as possible. A plenary indulgence is the full pardon of temporal punishment due to our sins in this life (a "get out of purgatory free" card). The decree mentions many other actions that are granted an indulgence during the time of pandemic.

The place and attire: it would be nice for everyone to dress as for Sunday Mass, to arrange the room with candles or statues of saints or a bible in a prominent place. It may also help to sit and stand together like we do at Mass.

Order of Prayer

Explanation.....	2
Introduction.....	4
Liturgy of the Word.....	5
First Reading (Exodus 22:20–26).....	5
Responsorial Psalm (18:2–3, 3–4, 47, 51).....	6
Second Reading (1 Thessalonians 1:5c–10).....	7
Alleluia.....	7
Gospel (Matthew 22:34–40).....	8
Reflection.....	9
Creed.....	10
Intercessions.....	12
Spiritual Communion.....	14
The Lord’s Prayer.....	14
Act of Spiritual Communion.....	14
Silent Thanksgiving.....	14
Conclusion.....	15
Dismissal.....	15
Prayer to St. Michael.....	15
St. Mary’s Streaming Schedule.....	16
Copyright Notice.....	16

Introduction

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: Let us call to mind our sins and ask the Lord for his merciful forgiveness.

All: I confess to Almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned. In my thoughts, and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault. Therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Leader: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

Leader: Let us pray. (*pause in silence*)

Almighty ever-living God,
grant that we may always conform our will to yours
and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading ([Exodus 22:20–26](#))

Thus says the LORD:

"You shall not molest or oppress an alien,
for you were once aliens yourselves in the land of Egypt.

You shall not wrong any widow or orphan.

If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me,

I will surely hear their cry.

My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword;
then your own wives will be widows, and your children
orphans.

"If you lend money to one of your poor neighbors among my
people,

you shall not act like an extortioner toward him
by demanding interest from him.

If you take your neighbor's cloak as a pledge,
you shall return it to him before sunset;

for this cloak of his is the only covering he has for his body.

What else has he to sleep in?

If he cries out to me, I will hear him; for I am compassionate."

Responsorial Psalm (18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51)

R. (2) I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, O LORD, my strength,
O LORD, my rock, my fortress, my deliverer.

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

My God, my rock of refuge,
my shield, the horn of my salvation, my stronghold!
Praised be the LORD, I exclaim,
and I am safe from my enemies.

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

The LORD lives and blessed be my rock!
Extolled be God my savior.
You who gave great victories to your king
and showed kindness to your anointed.

R. I love you, Lord, my strength.

Second Reading ([1 Thessalonians 1:5c–10](#))

Brothers and sisters:

You know what sort of people we were among you for your sake.

And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, receiving the word in great affliction, with joy from the Holy Spirit, so that you became a model for all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth not only in Macedonia and in Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything.

For they themselves openly declare about us what sort of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God and to await his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus, who delivers us from the coming wrath.

Alleluia

R. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him and we will come to him.

R. Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel ([Matthew 22:34–40](#))

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"

He said to him,

"You shall love the Lord, your God,
with all your heart,
with all your soul,
and with all your mind.

This is the greatest and the first commandment.

The second is like it:

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

Reflection

Pause for silent reflection. Members of the family may share what inspired them, or what they are praying for on this day. This is not a time for open discussion, but for speaking from the heart while the others listen. Someone may read aloud from a printed reflection or homily written by someone else on the readings and circumstances of the day.

Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
(*bow*) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Intercessions

Leader: Our heavenly Father knows our many needs. In faith, we come before Him and humbly ask that he grant our prayers.

Reader:

1. For the Church, that she may continue to guide the people of God in truth and holiness, we pray to the Lord...
2. For those who have responded to God's call to spread the Good News through missionary activity around the world, we pray to the Lord...
3. That God, who hears the cry of all who are injured and vulnerable, may open our ears to that same cry and enable us to build a Culture of Life, we pray to the Lord...
4. For the youth of the world, as they search for the living God, that they may grow in faith and be living witnesses to the power of the risen Christ, we pray to the Lord...
5. For all men and women now considering their vocation, that they will take heart in Jesus' call to serve Him as priests, deacons or in the consecrated life by our words of encouragement and prayers of support, we pray to the Lord ...
6. For all who have died, that they share the banquet of eternal life, we pray to the Lord...
7. For all the intentions we hold in our hearts (*pause for a few seconds*), we pray to the Lord...

Leader: Lord, we rejoice in your presence,
and we ask your mercy.
Hear our prayers,
and keep us faithful to your Word. We ask this
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Spiritual Communion

The Lord's Prayer

Leader: At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: Our Father ...

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Silent Thanksgiving

Here, a moment of silence may be observed to thank Jesus for coming into our hearts, and to ask Him personally for all that we need.

Conclusion

Leader: May the Lord bless us, † protect us from evil,
and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

Dismissal

Leader: Let us go in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

Prayer to St. Michael

Saint Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle.

Be our protection

against the wickedness and snares of the devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray;

and do Thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host,

by the Power of God,

cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits

who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

St. Mary's Streaming Schedule

On <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysalton> (no account/login)

- Monday-Friday, 5:30pm Rosary
- The regular Mass schedule has resumed in the church, with social distancing, facemasks recommended
Monday-Saturday 6:30am and 8am (also streaming)
Fridays 8:15am during school year, still streaming
Full Sunday Mass schedule:
 - Saturday 5:15pm,
 - Sunday 6:30am,
8am (also streaming; facemasks required),
9:30am, 11am, 6pm

Please visit our homepage at <https://www.stmarysalton.com> for the most current directives and schedules.

Copyright Notice

Excerpts from the *Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States of America, second typical edition* © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. Used with permission ([one-time use](#)). All rights reserved. No portion of this text may be reproduced by any means without permission in writing from the copyright owner.