

# **Sunday Prayer at Home**

**The Solemnity of Our Lord  
Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

**November 22, 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

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## 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,  
whose will is to restore all things  
in your beloved Son, the King of the universe,  
grant, we pray,  
that the whole creation, set free from slavery,  
may render your majesty service  
and ceaselessly proclaim your praise.  
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 ([Ezekiel 34:11–12, 15–17](#))**

Thus says the Lord GOD:

I myself will look after and tend my sheep.

As a shepherd tends his flock

when he finds himself among his scattered sheep,

so will I tend my sheep.

I will rescue them from every place where they were scattered  
when it was cloudy and dark.

I myself will pasture my sheep;

I myself will give them rest, says the Lord GOD.

The lost I will seek out,

the strayed I will bring back,

the injured I will bind up,

the sick I will heal,

but the sleek and the strong I will destroy,

shepherding them rightly.

As for you, my sheep, says the Lord GOD,

I will judge between one sheep and another,

between rams and goats.

**Responsorial Psalm (23:1-2, 2-3, 5-6)**

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

In verdant pastures he gives me repose.

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

Beside restful waters he leads me;

he refreshes my soul.

He guides me in right paths

for his name's sake.

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

You spread the table before me

in the sight of my foes;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

Only goodness and kindness follow me

all the days of my life;

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD

for years to come.

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

## **Second Reading ([1 Corinthians 15:20–26, 28](#))**

Brothers and sisters:

Christ has been raised from the dead,  
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

For since death came through man,  
the resurrection of the dead came also through man.

For just as in Adam all die,  
so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,  
but each one in proper order:

Christ the firstfruits;

then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ;

then comes the end,

when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father,  
when he has destroyed every sovereignty  
and every authority and power.

For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

When everything is subjected to him,  
then the Son himself will also be subjected  
to the one who subjected everything to him,  
so that God may be all in all.

## **Alleluia**

**R. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!

**R. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## **Gospel ([Matthew 25:14–30](#))**

Jesus said to his disciples:

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory,  
and all the angels with him,  
he will sit upon his glorious throne,  
and all the nations will be assembled before him.  
And he will separate them one from another,  
as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.  
He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.  
Then the king will say to those on his right,  
‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father.  
Inherit the kingdom prepared for you  
from the foundation of the world.  
For I was hungry and you gave me food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me drink,  
a stranger and you welcomed me,  
naked and you clothed me,  
ill and you cared for me,  
in prison and you visited me.’  
Then the righteous will answer him and say,  
‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,  
or thirsty and give you drink?  
When did we see you a stranger and welcome you,  
or naked and clothe you?  
When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’  
And the king will say to them in reply,  
‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did  
for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me.’  
Then he will say to those on his left,  
‘Depart from me, you accursed,

into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

For I was hungry and you gave me no food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,  
a stranger and you gave me no welcome,  
naked and you gave me no clothing,  
ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.'

Then they will answer and say,  
'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty  
or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison,  
and not minister to your needs?'

He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you,  
what you did not do for one of these least ones,  
you did not do for me.'

And these will go off to eternal punishment,  
but the righteous to eternal life."

## 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:** As we acknowledge Christ our Lord and King, let us offer these prayers and petitions to the Father in His name.

**Reader:**

1. That those who exercise Christ's Kingship in the Church will be worthy servants of the Gospel and direct the people of God toward the promised kingdom, we pray to the Lord...
2. That world leaders will govern justly and wisely, and strive for true peace, we pray to the Lord...
3. That in Christ, the King of Justice and Life, we may eliminate the evils of abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia from our midst, we pray to the Lord...
4. That more men and women will generously accept the call to serve Christ and his Church as priests, deacons, and religious brothers and sisters, we pray to the Lord...
5. For those most susceptible to the Coronavirus and for all of the essential workers, that God will protect them from illness, we pray to the Lord ...
6. That the departed may enjoy the peace and endless life of heaven, 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:** God of love, our refuge and our strength,  
hear the prayers of your Church,  
and grant us the grace to be ever faithful to you.  
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.

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