



**Intentions**  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent**  
**March 28<sup>th</sup> ~ April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020**

**3/28 SATURDAY VIGIL:**  
*5th Sunday of Lent*  
*Peter Wallack*

**3/29 5th Sunday of Lent**  
*The People of the Parish*  
*Special Intentions*

**3/30 MONDAY**  
*Intentions of Kerry McEleney*

**3/31 TUESDAY**  
*Marie Rauseo*  
*(95<sup>th</sup> Birthday)*

**4/1 WEDNESDAY**  
*Bertha Begrowicz*

**4/2 THURSDAY**  
*Poor Souls in Purgatory*

**4/3 FRIDAY**  
*Daniel Collins*

The Magnificent prayer book is offering  
free apps for your spiritual reading.

Please continue to say the rosary daily.

Mass with Bishop Robert Barron  
[www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass](http://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass)

*Dear Parishioners,*

What strange times we are living in these days of COVID-19? I must confess that this time of quarantine has renewed my love for Christ, for the priesthood, and for you, the people I serve. What can I say to the reality that the public celebration of Holy Mass is suspended from our Churches, and the people of God here in Lamoille County cannot gather together as the mystical body of Christ in worship? How does a pastor respond to the challenges that we face with changing economic, social, educational sectors of our society and world? In times as these, there are so many questions that arise in our hearts as people of faith: Why is God allowing this to happen? Where is the Lord and what is He up too? At a time such as this, when we need Him the most, why does He seem so far away?

The answer that we seek, and the only answer that will ever truly satisfy, can only be found in one place: Jesus Christ! When upon the stormy waves of the Sea of Galilee, Jesus called the Apostle, St. Peter, out of the boat to walk on the water towards Him, it was only in keeping his eyes fixed on Jesus that Peter's heart was fortified and strong, his mind stayed focused, and his spirit continued to trust and believe. But the very moment he allowed Jesus to fade from his focus and he turned his vision to the dark clouds, the strong winds and drowning waves, Peter began to sink. We find ourselves in a storm, and while we have so many unanswered questions as to what and why, perhaps the prayer of the humble Italian Friar who bore the wounds of Christ in his body for 50 years, St. Padre Pio, may calm our stormy souls, "Pray, hope, and don't worry."

Where is God in all of this? He is found where He has *always* been found – in the Eucharist, in the sacraments of the Church, and in hearts of His people. We remember that our union with Christ through baptism is unbreakable – His life in us, our lives inseparable from His. We must look to the Cross for guidance in how we are to love and care for each other in these times. The great mystic and Doctor of the Church, St. Teresa of Avila said it well, "Christ has no body now but yours. No hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes through which he looks compassion on this world. Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good. Yours are the hands through which he blesses all the world. Yours are the hands, yours are the feet, yours are the eyes, you are his body. Christ has no body now on earth but yours." May God bless you and know that Fr. Joseph and I miss you, love you, and pray for you daily.

*With Mary*  
*In Christ,*

*Fr. Jon*

**Prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary  
for Protection During the Coronavirus  
Pandemic**



**O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection.**

**Amen.**

**Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the prayers of we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.**

**Pope Francis**

We hope all of you are doing well. We are in the midst of unprecedented circumstances right now including the inability to attend public Mass. We want to be sure that while you are taking care of yourself physically that you are also taking care of yourself spiritually. The Office of Evangelization and Catechesis has been meeting online to come up with a schedule of online webinars and events to best serve you throughout the Diocese. Please go to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington website for the schedule of upcoming events. Some of the events include daily Rosary at 11:15 with me, Bible studies with Dcn. Phil, Lectio Divina with Michael, and a special webinar with Sharon Trani on how to take care of yourself in times like this. During the Rosary we will have opportunity for prayer intentions and I invite you to submit those.

Please look through the schedule and join us. It is so important for us to continue to thrive in our faith in times like this while maintaining health for our physical bodies.

I pray that all of you are doing well. While the majority of the Chancery offices are closed, we are still working from home. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you need anything or have questions.

May God bless you all! Valerie, Roman Catholic Diocese

Yesterday, Vermont Gov. Phil Scott issued a "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order and directed the closure of in-person operations for all non-essential businesses. The governor's order directs "Vermonters to stay at home, leaving only for essential reasons, critical to health and safety. If leaving the home, Vermonters should adhere to social distancing policies, including remaining six feet from others (except for those with whom they share a home) and thoroughly and regularly washing hands.

Effective March 25, 2020, at 5 p.m., all businesses and not-for-profit entities not expressly exempted in the order must suspend all in-person business operations. Operations that can be conducted online or by phone, or sales that can be facilitated with curbside pickup or delivery only, can continue."

In keeping with the governor's order, Burlington Bishop Christopher Coyne has directed that all Catholic churches, chapels and shrines throughout the state be closed as of 5 p.m. today and that all "non-essential" employees of the Catholic community (as defined by the governor's order) work remotely as need be.

During these challenging times, Catholics can still participate in devotions and worship remotely by tuning into [daily 12:05 p.m. Mass \(Monday through Friday\) and Sundays at 10 a.m.](#), live rosary at 11:15 a.m. and many other spiritual engagement activities. For the weekly schedule of activities visit: [vermontcatholic.org/spiritualresources](http://vermontcatholic.org/spiritualresources).