



Mass Intentions
Palm Sunday
Passion of the Lord
April 4th & 5th , 2020

4/4 SATURDAY VIGIL:

Palm Sunday - Passion of the Lord
Jean Story

4/5 Palm Sunday - Passion of the Lord

The People of the Parish
Vladimir Wolf

4/6 MONDAY

Mark Fedus

4/7 TUESDAY

Dominic Rauseo

4/8 WEDNESDAY

Lintermann Family

4/9 THURSDAY

Intentions of Bianca Alter

4/10 FRIDAY

Regina, Gino & Luigi Stellon

The Magnificat 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

Dear Parishioners,

By way of news updates, as I'm sure you have heard by now Bishop Coyne reaffirmed that our churches are to remain closed until the "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order has been lifted by the Governor. The Chrism Mass will be rescheduled to a time when the priests and faithful can gather together. Priests may bless the Oil of the Sick and Oil of Catechumens according to the prescribed rites if needed. Confessions may be heard at the request of the faithful, not in the church, but in a suitable location which allows for a respect for the seal as well as social distancing. No regularly scheduled confessions will be advertised.

This week begins Passion Week, or Holy Week, with Palm Sunday and the reading of the Passion of our Lord from Matthew's Gospel (Matthew 26-27). I encourage your family or household to spend some time and read this essential text. We begin this week by remembering how Jesus loves us, the extravagance of His sacrifice and His total willingness to give everything for the love of His Mystical Bride, the Church. His Passion makes visible to us the invisible mystery that St. John the beloved wrote about in one of his Catholic letters in the New Testament: "God is love" (1 Jn 4:10). Read it again. It's not that God *loves*; but rather that God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – exists in an eternal, dynamic loving union, and the good news is that you and I have been created to share in the union as members of God's family for all eternity. But how?

We must say, "Yes" to Christ's proposal...not once, or twice but every day. One significant note about the Passion accounts in all 4 Gospels is how Jesus never *forces* His love onto anyone. He doesn't threaten or give ultimatums. He simply teaches the truth, and lets one decide on their own. He proposes to each human soul, and waits at the door of their heart to be allowed in.

Please spend time reading the Passion account this week, as well as the readings for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and of course, Easter. You may consider how to be creative and incorporate some of our great traditions into your home. Could you as a family wash each other's feet on Holy Thursday after reading St. John's account of the last supper? Could you spend time adoring the Eucharist live-streamed to honor Jesus' words to his apostles in the Garden, "Could you not wait one hour with me?" Perhaps on Good Friday, you could pray the Stations of the Cross together, and afterwards pass around a crucifix to each member of your household to kiss and share what Christ's sacrifice means to them. Easter, of course, should be festive with food and fun – I challenge you to find your favorite Easter Hymn and sing it with gusto as a household or family to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection.

Fr. Joseph and I miss you and love you and pray for you every day. Check out the parish Facebook page for updates, videos, and news. May God bless you now and always, and please stay healthy and safe.

With Mary
In Christ,
Fr. Jon

A Message from Bishop Christopher J. Coyne in this time of pandemic

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In keeping with Vermont Gov. Phil Scott “Stay Home, Stay Safe” order directing the closure of in-person operations for all non-essential businesses, I am saddened to announce that all Catholic churches, chapels and shrines throughout the state be closed as of 5 p.m. on March 25.

During these challenging times, scripture reminds us that even when we are physically isolated, we are not spiritually so: “God is near to those who call on Him and Jesus Himself, just before he ascended to heaven said, “And know that I am with you to the end of time.” As members of the Church, we know that we are not alone.

As we stay at home in order to stop the spread of COVID- 19, I encourage you to use this time to strengthen your relationship with Christ through daily prayer, participation in TV Mass, scripture reflection and engaging your family in faith activities. You can tune 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 opportunities listed on the back of this bulletin each week or visit: vermontcatholic.org/spiritualresources.

Please prayerfully consider supporting your parish and the Diocese by making your usual offertory and Bishop’s Appeal contributions through this difficult time to sustain the Church until regular Mass schedule can resume. Visit your local parish or the **bishopsappealvt.org** for more information. Let us pray us join together daily by saying the pope’s prayer to the Blessed Mother to end the spread of this pandemic and heal the sick. Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us. Amen

Yours in Christ,
The Most Reverend
Christopher J. Coyne
Bishop of Burlington

Prayer for Protection in Time of Pandemic

O Mary,
you always brighten 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 while
remaining steadfast in faith.
O loving Mother,
you know what we need,
and we are confident you will provide for us as at
Cana in Galilee.
Intercede for us with your Son Jesus,
the Divine Physician,
for those who have fallen ill,
for those who are vulnerable,
and for those who have died.
Intercede also for those charged with protecting
the health and safety of others
and for those who are tending to the sick
and seeking a cure.
Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who took upon himself our
sufferings and carried our sorrows,
so as to lead us, through the Cross,
to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

**Under thy protection we seek refuge,
O Holy Mother of God.
In our needs, despise not our petitions,
but deliver us always from all dangers,
O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.**