

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2020

MASS SCHEDULE

Sat Apr 4	5:00 p.m.	+Pat Barrett
	7:30 p.m.	Brazilian Mass (live streamed)
Sun Apr 5	7:30 a.m.	Our Parishioners
	9:00 a.m.	+Winifred Manton
	10:30 a.m.	+Sal Staffieri
	12:00 N	Richard Botelho
	5:00 p.m.	Spanish Mass
Mon Apr 6	7:30 a.m.	Souls in Purgatory
	12:10 N	+Michael Corey
Tues Apr 7	7:30 a.m.	+Dorothy and Bernard Pane
	12:10 N	+Ryan Bishop
Wed Apr 8	7:30 a.m.	+Scarpetti Family
	12:10 N	+Jeremiah Moroney
Thu Apr 9	7:30 p.m.	Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper (live streamed)
Fri Apr 10	3:00 p.m.	Good Friday Liturgy of the Lord's Passion English (live streamed)
	5:00 p.m.	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion Spanish (live streamed)
	7:30 p.m.	Liturgy of the Lord's Passion Brazilian (live streamed)
Sat Apr 11		Holy Saturday
Sun Apr 12	7:30 a.m.	Fermin Family
	9:00 a.m.	Our Parishioners
	10:30 a.m.	+Walter Beck
	12:00 N	+Maria Ta
	5:00 p.m.	Spanish Mass

**Fr. Leonel is not celebrating Mass at 7:30 on Sunday evenings during the shutdown. He streams Mass at 9 a.m.

This week the sanctuary lamp burns

in memory of

Mary Beth Garavel.

From the Pastor's Desk ---

Our bulletin has a different look, as you can see, the consequence of a solution Carol and LPi were able to develop so that Carol could work from her home computer.

First, let me speak for all of us as I express enormous sadness. The sadness we feel over the number of people fallen ill and the number of casualties, our sadness for the millions of unemployed, for family members who cannot see one another or who cannot have the comfort of funerals. The stress on everyone is enormous. No one has been spared the negative impact of this pandemic. As a community, we are saddened that at this most holy time of the year, we are unable to do what we are accustomed to do: be church, that is, be the people of God marking the events of our salvation and giving praise and thanksgiving to God through Jesus.

I am hoping that a great majority of us are checking in with the parish through our website. Encourage parishioners you know to read the bulletin on line and to join us for Mass through the online streaming. To that point, we were crestfallen that the transmission on March 22 failed. We determined that our upload was too weak. We replaced Frontier with Xfinity at the church which provides us with greater strength. We thank those who gave us feedback about trouble hearing last Sunday. We found out that by turning off the church microphones and relying on an attachable microphone to the phone, which Glen owns, we can eliminate the echo.

We are blessing the palms this Sunday, however, the Bishop has decided that they will be distributed on Pentecost Sunday, May 31. Kept in the sealed sleeves in a cool place, they just may make it until then. Our Mass for Palm Sunday and all the Holy Week liturgies will be modified. The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Sacraments has issued guidelines for celebrating the liturgies without a congregation. The Passion will not be read in parts today or on Good Friday but straight through.

On Thursday, the priests of the parish will celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper, but the ceremony of the washing of the feet is eliminated as is the procession of the Blessed Sacrament and its transfer to an altar of repose. The Good Friday liturgy will go as usual. The Easter Vigil is most impacted. The lighting of the fire is eliminated, the newly blessed water will not be placed

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in the font, and, of course, there are no rites of initiation for the catechumens and candidates. They have been moved to the vigil Mass of Pentecost. We are not going to live stream the Vigil Mass, only the Easter Sunday Mass. For those of us who normally attend and enjoy the drama of it (there is none this year), you might like to watch the Mass from the cathedral with Bishop Caggiano. By the way, all the Triduum liturgies celebrated by the Bishop will be streamed on the diocesan website, bridgeportdiocese.org.

It is more of a challenge this year to enter into the sacred events. I will have the church open during the day and Stations available for those who might wish to pray them. Try to set some time apart from what has become your new routine for some prayer and reflection. I and all the priests miss you.

---Fr. Mecca

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION---

Classes remain cancelled until further notice. Check the St. Peter Parish website for updated information regarding classes, upcoming Sacraments and next year's registration. Students with online classes kindly complete up to Chapter 20.

First Communion candidates, there is an at home First Communion retreat for you to compete with your parents. Send us, including your family and your completed project. Photos can be sent to stpeterfuture@stpeterdanb.org. Continue to pray each day and stay well.

-The Religious Education Team

ST. PETER SCHOOL NEWS---

With schools closed, our students at St. Peter School have been provided with plenty of work to do at home, complete with daily check-ins from their teachers. All of teachers are reaching and teaching their students through either Google Classroom (3-8) or Seesaw (K-2). Our fabulous and our wonderful parents are working in partnership to support students. Thankfully, at this moment in time, we have not been directly affected by the Coronavirus. Prayers go out to all who have been impacted by this deadly outbreak.

As we move through these days, let us keep our faith strong and our prayers vigilant; let us also take time to breathe deeply and cherish special moment with family and friends. In an unusual way, the gift of time is at our doorstep. Let us use it wisely and be gentle with one another.

Have a blessed Palm Sunday and a Happy Easter from Saint Peter School staff and students.

Today let us accompany Jesus on his journey of sorrow and love, the Way of the Cross (Via Crucis). The Way of the Cross is the consummation of Jesus' life, the example of his obedience to the will of the Father, the realization of his infinite love for us sinners, the proof of his mission and the definitive fulfillment of revelation and salvation history

The cross is the way to the resurrection. Good Friday is the road to an Easter of light. God never forgets a single one of his children and never tires of forgiving us and of embracing us with his infinite mercy. May we never tire of asking for forgiveness and believing in the Father's boundless mercy.

So let us walk together along the Way of the Cross carrying in our hearts this example of love and forgiveness. Let us go with Jesus through his suffering, knowing that his death is not the end but through God's power he will be raised to new life.

---Pope Francis, "Jesus' Way of the Cross"