

Thoughts from Fr. Scott

I pray this communication finds you well and avoiding the virus among us. These days of social isolation can cause great despair in the hearts of many. They can also bring great joy to the hearts of the faithful. Why or how can that be you ask? Well, for those who enter into God's Love, deepen their prayer, offer up their sufferings and join their suffering to the Cross this time can be fruitful and allow us to grow in holiness. Yes, we all need the isolation and confinement to our homes to end. We need common sense to prevail and more importantly the Grace of Easter to be about us. Still, we can find great solace by being with God in prayer; with God, we can all violate the six-foot rule! This is why our Church building is open every day for private prayer. Please come to pray. There is plenty of room for us to spread out and be with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament is the best medicine available for our troubled souls. It brings tranquility and allows us to grow in holiness while trusting in God's Providence. Let us use this time to pray and intercede for all who need our prayers and all those affected by the virus among us.

I ask for your prayers for those who were to celebrate their Sacraments of Initiation this year. The elect in our RCIA program, the first communion students and those who were to be confirmed have all had their Sacramental celebrations delayed by this time. Please pray for them to have great patience. This is the time of year when we celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation with great joy. It is spiritually appropriate to celebrate the sacraments of initiation, Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation, during the Easter season. The sign and symbol of celebrating these sacraments in such close proximity to each other with Easter reminds us of their close connection to the Resurrection. These sacraments of initiation renew us and remind us of our special relationship in Christ. Remembering our own excitement and joy at receiving these sacraments should prompt us to act justly in the world by proclaiming Jesus

Christ Crucified and Resurrected: the sign of our salvation. So, please pray for all who were to deepen their relationship with God in these Sacramental moments and ask God to draw close to them as they anticipate their celebrations for an extended period of time.

"Christianity is not a philosophical doctrine, it is not a program of life that enables one to be well-formed and to make peace. These are its consequences. Christianity is a person, a person lifted up on the cross. A person who emptied himself to save us. He took on sin. And so just as in the desert sin was lifted up, here God made man was lifted up for us. . . . One cannot understand Christianity without understanding this profound humiliation of the Son of God, who humbled himself and made himself a servant unto death on the cross. Thanks to the mercy of God, we glory in Christ Crucified. And that is why there is no Christianity without the cross, and there is no cross without Jesus Christ." I found these words of Pope Francis to be simple yet profound. They are a very good reflection for us in these days of Easter. To remind us that Jesus destroyed death by His cross. The crucifix is a profound image that should always be before us to remind us of the generous Love of God and who it is that gained eternal life for us. Especially in these days, the Cross can be for us an opportunity and reminder. An opportunity to join our sufferings to the Cross and reminder to offer up these individual sufferings for the salvation of souls. The Cross should remind us that these days of isolation are not nearly as bad as the sufferings Jesus endured to free us from sin and helps us to experience God's Mercy. Therefore, let us glory in the Cross of Jesus and always remember that the Cross leads to the Resurrection.

God Bless and have a great week!
Fr. Scott

Thought for the week: Being engaged in the new life of the Holy Spirit along with full initiation are the foundations of Easter joy!

FR. CHRISTOPHER'S CONTEMPLATION

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Hello and happy Sunday!

I pray that everyone is doing well and keep the joy of Easter alive. As I was reading through the Gospel this week from Luke, I was reminded of the countless scripture classes I took while I was in seminary. Through those classes and the Bible studies I did in college, I would say that I have read the entire Bible at least once. The amazing thing about the Bible, the sacred scriptures, is that no matter how many times we go back to it, no matter how many times we read a particular passage, the Lord always has something new there for us.

I have said before how important it is that we as disciples of Jesus must be familiar with the Word of God. We need to read the Bible often, if not daily. This can be done by praying with the daily Mass readings. The more we immerse ourselves in the Bible (new and old testaments) the more we see how the new testament fulfills the old testament. We come to appreciate how Jesus has come to fulfill what was spoken about Him by the prophets.

I think often, reading the Bible seems intimidating to us. I think it is good for all of us to read through the entire Bible at least once in our life. I do not recommend trying to start with Genesis and reading straight through. I tried that once and only got to the third or fourth book before I fizzled out. I recommend starting with the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John).

Why am I pushing scripture study so much this week? In the Gospel today, we have the passage about the two disciples on the road to Emmaus where they encounter Jesus and He reveals to them all that the scriptures said about Him. I have to imagine it must have been the best bible study ever had. Jesus Himself breaking down for them all that had been said about Him and helped them to see the big picture of salvation. This can happen for us as well if we take the time to immerse ourselves in scripture. We can come to deeper faith, truth, hope, and love of Christ in what He has and is doing for us. I know we all wish we could have been at that bible study on the way to Emmaus. Sadly we can not, but there are a bunch of great resources out there for us. The Magnificat is a great resource. It is a monthly subscription where they send you the daily Mass readings along with write-ups about saints, Church teachings and daily reflections. There are other commentaries out there and great bible study resources you can use. The website Formed, has a lot of great scripture resources as well, including great directed bible studies that you can do in a group, as a family, or by yourself.

I encourage all of us as we celebrate the Joy of the resurrection to draw close to Christ in His sacred word. Many of us have a little extra time these days. Let us fill it with the Word of God that we might come to Know Christ in a more intimate and personal way.

Jean's Jottings

I hope and pray each day that you are all doing well. Never in a million years would I have been able to predict life as it is now. I am reminding myself each and every day that I must look for the grace in these days and find much to be thankful for. This has given a wonderfully new meaning to "put your trust in God" as I have surrendered to what is and await the gifts and fruits of what will come of this. That all being said, I miss the day-to-day at the parish, my co-workers, the Fathers and you my OLL family. It strikes me too how so many posts on social media talk about needing to get away from their kids and significant others. I for one, would do just about anything to be able to see, hug and hold my kids; everyone is walking a different path through this journey and, in my eyes, we need to find the path of understanding and peace. None of us can predict how this will change us and what the major outcomes will be but let's not be like Thomas from last week and let's believe that God's hand is within this and He is granting us peace in the midst of this time. I pray that we continue to stay centered in Christ and not become despondent and discouraged.

Peace and prayers as we center ourselves in Christ,
Jean Hartman, DRE



PARISH SUPPORT

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

If you require a 2019 contribution statement for income tax purposes, please fill out the form below and return it to the Delaney Center or you can call 623-0274, fax it to 248-623-2723 or by e-mail at ParishOffice@ollonline.org and request one.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE #: _____

EMAIL: _____

ENVELOPE # _____

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2020

ACTS 6:8-15 JN 6:22-29

Int. Fr. Karl Romkema on the 1st Anniversary of his Ordination
requested by his Family

†**Anastacio Sta. Cruz** requested by their Family

TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2020

St. Peter Chanel

ACTS 7:51—8:1a JN 6:30-35

Int. Fr. Karl Romkema on the 1st Anniversary of his Ordination
requested by the Zednik Family

†**Tom Thibodeau** requested by the OLL Parish Staff

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2020

St. Catherine of Siena

ACTS 8:1b-8 JN 6:35-40

Int. Judy Brooks requested by Anne Zubalik

†**Emily Zubalik** requested by Anne Zubalik

THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2020

St. Pius V

ACTS 8:26-40 JN 6:44-51

†**John Beeding** requested by Kathy Lewis

†**Mildred Jackson** requested by David & Cathy Robertson

FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2020

St. Joseph the Worker

ACTS 9:1-20 JN 6:52-59 MT 13:54-58

Int. Andrea Gumbko requested by Lisa Suran

†**Pam Johnson** requested by David & Cathy Robertson

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2020

St. Athanasius

ACTS 9:31-42 JN 6:60-69

†**Bill Cassidy** requested by Pat Cassidy

†**Tom Thibodeau** requested by the OLL Parish Staff

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter

ACTS 2:14a, 36-41 1 PT 2:20b-25 JN 10:1-10

†**Deceased Members of the Arabucki Family**

†**Matt Hull & Margaret Dean** requested by Pat & Mike Hull

†**Carl Cordonnier** requested by Tim & Kim Smith

†**Millie Robak** requested by her Family

†**Elaine & Paul Heisler**

†**Josephine Macuga** requested by her sister, Rose Gregory

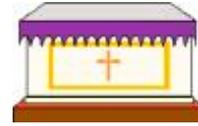
†**Maria Wells** requested by Teresa McEnrue

Parish Family of Our Lady of the Lakes

Be assured that every intention is being prayed for by Fr. Scott and Fr. Christopher as they celebrate their private daily Mass.

LIVE STREAM SCHEDULE

The following are times for the Live Stream of Masses on Facebook. To watch live, go to **Facebook.com/OLLwaterford**. After the Live Stream has finished they will be posted on our website **OLLonline.org**.



SATURDAY, MAY 2

5:00pm

SUNDAY, MAY 3

10:00am

Live Stream Masses will take place as long as necessary.

FREE ACCESS TO MAGNIFICAT AND MAGNIFIKID

In addition to its online edition, MAGNIFICAT is **now offering complimentary access to its iOS and Android Apps** throughout May. To register for **free access in English**, visit www.magnificat.com/free. For **free access in Spanish**, visit and register at www.magnificat.com/gratis.

We are also happy to make available **complimentary access to MagnifiKid**. Visit www.magnifikid.com/free to view and download each weekly booklet of our colorful Sunday missalette for children ages 6 through 12. While so many children are missing formal religious instruction and are unable to attend Mass, *MagnifiKid!* can be their special guide, accompanying them through each week as they prepare to attend Mass or watch it at home.

ARCHDIOCESAN RESOURCES

To watch Sunday, Saturday, or Daily Mass from home, either online or TV visit: **aod.org/livemasses**. The faithful can watch and participate in real time and on the Archdiocese of Detroit's Facebook page.

Many more resources can also be found at the archdiocesan website: **aod.org**

STEWARDSHIP

IRA ROLLOVER

What you need to know about the IRA charitable gift rollover

Congress has extended and the president has signed the favorable IRA charitable rollover tax provisions for 2015 and made them permanent for future years.

What should a donor over age 70½ do in order to get the benefit that IRA distributions will not be included in taxable income? Donors should follow the same general procedures for IRA charitable distributions as in the past —

- Only **direct distributions to charity** up to \$100,000 qualify as tax-free. Distributions in exchange for a charitable gift annuity or to a charitable remainder trust do not qualify.
- It is especially important that the IRA distribution be made payable to the charity, not to you as the IRA owner and beneficiary. Otherwise, the distribution would not qualify for the favorable tax treatment. **Advise your IRA administrator to make the distribution check payable to the Church or other charity, not to you.**
- Only distributions from traditional or certain Roth IRAs are tax-free; the law does not apply to other qualified retirement plans, such as 401(k) plans. However, you should consider consulting with your financial or tax advisor about the possibility of transferring funds from one of these other qualified plans to establish an IRA, with the distribution to charity coming from the newly established IRA.
- Consult with your IRA administrator and tax advisor on the proper procedures for making a direct distribution to your parish, the Archdiocese of Detroit Endowment Foundation, the Catholic Services Appeal, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan, or another archdiocesan institution or qualified charity.

WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR PARISH

Your contributions are used for the day-to-day operations of the parish including payroll, maintenance and cleaning of buildings, as well as utilities. We thank you for your continued giving during this difficult time.

3 Ways to Give Electronically

Option 1: If your bank offers free Bill Pay we recommend that you use that option. Log into your bank and follow instructions to set up auto bill pay. You will need the following information: Our Lady of the Lakes, 5481 Dixie Hwy., Waterford, MI 48329.

or

Option 2: Visit give.aod.org. Choose **Make a Gift to Your Parish** You will be asked to create a profile for your login. Under Gift Information choose **Parish online offertory**, the amount of your gift, and choose **Our Lady of the Lakes**.

or

Option 3: Visit <https://woll.weshareonline.org> and follow the instructions to set up a profile and begin electronically giving.

Mail

Mail your contribution to Our Lady of the Lakes, 5481 Dixie Hwy., Waterford, MI 48329.

Mobile Giving

You can drop off your contribution to the Parish Center. There is a mailbox outside the front door and you can drop your offering off there.

Curbside Service

Call ahead or from your vehicle (248-623-0274) and a staff member will meet you at your car.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

In St. Luke's Gospel, the evangelist shares how, on the day of His Resurrection, Jesus encounters two of His disciples on their way to Emmaus. While He opens their hearts to the messianic passages that refer to Him in the Scriptures, they do not realize it is Christ until He breaks bread with them that evening. In this encounter, Jesus lays down the basic format of the Mass we celebrate today: Liturgy of the Word, a homily (Jesus' explanation of the Scriptures), and the Liturgy of the Eucharist (breaking of

bread with these disciples). In the Acts of the Apostles and his First Letter, Peter likewise encourages us to acknowledge Jesus as our Savior. As Christian stewards, where do we meet our Lord? Our most significant encounter is in the Eucharist. In partaking of Holy Communion, we receive Jesus truly present, Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity. We can also encounter our risen Lord and Savior through attending Eucharistic Exposition and Benediction.

OUR PARISH LIFE TOGETHER

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 in 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.

WEDDING BANNS

Trent Drumheller and Hannah Lawassani—III

Our Lady of the Lakes PRAYER REQUEST LINE

248-623-0274

ollprayerteam@OLLonline.org

Touch “Prayers” in our Parish App



Bannasch



Greene

REST IN PEACE

Remember those who have
gone before us

**Audrie Bannasch
Wanda Greene
Loretta Utley**

*“Happy are those who have
died in the Lord;
Let them rest from their labors
For their good deeds
go with them.”*

Our thoughts and prayers are with their families. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

PARISH RESOURCES

Visit www.OLLonline.org and select option **Parish**, to hear or view Our Lady of the Lakes liturgical services such as:

- Saturday and Sunday Masses
- Homilies
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotion

Weekend Masses are Live-Streamed
on our Facebook page:

Facebook.com/OLLwaterford

Weekly bulletins can be found at:

**www.ollonline.org/parish/bulletin
Our Parish App: Text “app” to 88202
DiscoverMass.com**



PRAY FOR OUR SICK

*Please keep in your thoughts and prayers
this week the sick members of our Parish:*

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Rob Amos | Kevin Dalley | Frank Pardington |
| Beverly Armstrong | Ben Darmofal | Carol Pawlowski |
| Joe Batwinas | Irene Delasko | Irene Pawlowski |
| Christian Bodenmiller | Joyce Delasko | Tania Price |
| Mikela Bodenmiller | Norma Erdman | Scott Przybylowicz |
| William Bodenmiller | Adam Figurski | Carol Raymond |
| Bill Boeneman | Patty Fincannon | Roxy Ryan |
| Anthony Bogedin | Jennifer Gaffey | Dennis Ritter |
| John Boncella | Gary Garza | Holly Sanders |
| Margo Brown | Katie Geary | Roger Smith |
| Chuck Campbell | Bill Grace | Tress Ann Smith |
| Juliana Clark | Suzanne Grimminger | Joe Sutherland |
| Janet Cobert | Linda Hemphill | Kenneth Turner |
| Dean Coleman | Jeff Hotchkiss | Theresa Villereal |
| Cheryl Coulter | Patrick Hull | Ralph Vogan |
| Sarah Coulter | Sally Kubani | Pat Zurbriggen |
| Brady Cullen | Tim Nejuk | |

May they find peace, strength, and comfort in God’s care.

CHURCH HOURS

Hours the church will be open for private prayer:

Monday - Thursday: 7:00am-8:00pm

Friday: 7:00am-5:00pm

Saturday: 7:00am-6:30pm

Sunday: 7:00am-5:00pm