



MAY - MONTH OF OUR LADY

In addition to the myriad feast days honoring Our Lady under her many titles and virtues, the entire month of May is especially given to her praise. In the words of Pope Paul VI, May is "a month which the piety of the faithful has long dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God ... For this is the month during which Christians, in their churches and their homes, offer the Virgin Mother more fervent and loving acts of homage and veneration; and it is the month in which a greater abundance of God's merciful gifts comes down to us from our Mother's throne.

ROSARY DURING THE MONTH OF MAY

If you are signed up for our REMIND messages you have been receiving a daily reminder at 12:00 noon to 'pray your Rosary.' I hope you find this a useful reminder, we all make our own individual efforts to pray every day and yet this is something we can all do together. There was also a message about a novena to Our Lady under the title "Undoer of Knots." We will have more of these in the future so watch the bulletin, website, and REMIND messages for more information.

PARISH COLLECTIONS

Each week we publish the previous weekend's collection numbers in the bulletin. Since the cancellation of Masses that number has obviously decreased. We normally show the weekend's numbers against the previous years. As the envelopes and donations come in, they do not necessarily come in evenly. For example, we may get a large one time gift or several weeks at once are mailed together. It then becomes difficult to see how much is coming in on a week to week basis for comparison purposes.

Perhaps a more useful number is to look at how much we collected cumulatively over the same period. By looking at this total we can more accurately see what we have been receiving against what we had received last year.

To keep it simple, the regular collections, Palm Sunday and Easter collections from March 16th to May 12th 2019 totaled \$114,605. The same period this year from March 14th to May 10th totaled \$54,053. That is a 53% decrease in revenue. Mind you our expenses have not decreased. Salaries and benefits still need to be paid as do insurance, utilities, lawn care, repairs, and other bills. Our collections have historically 'just covered our expenses' so we are operating at a heavy loss.

Thank you to those who have and continue to contribute. I pray that more will remember the parish in their generosity. We realize that this situation has placed an emotional and financial burden on many of you. Please know that I remember you in my daily Mass intentions. I pray for you all constantly that we may be able to return to the rightful worship of God in the Sacraments. Thank you and may God bless you and your families.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now 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.

Taken from *Visits to the Blessed Sacrament and the Blessed Virgin Mary* by Saint Alphonsus Liguori. Published by Tan Books.

PRAYER TO END THE PANDEMIC

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas, we fly to you today as your beloved children. We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of your holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness. For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance. Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust. In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind. Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy. Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

ANOTHER PRAYER FOR DURING THE PANDEMIC

O clement, O loving, O sweet Mother Mary,
We, your children of every nation,
Turn to you in this pandemic.
Our troubles are numerous; our fears are great.
Grant that we might deposit them at your feet,
Take refuge in your Immaculate Heart,
And obtain peace, healing, rescue,
And timely help in all our needs.
You are our Mother.
Pray for us to your Son.
Amen.

SURRENDER TO THE WILL OF GOD

The following quote comes from a very powerful prayer, the *Novena of Surrender to the Will of God* composed by Father Don Dolindo Ruotolo † 1882-1970. There is a link to it on our website under the “Prayers” tab.

You see evil growing instead of weakening?

Do not worry,

Close your eyes and say to me with faith:

“Thy will be done, You take care of it.”

I say to you that I will take care of it,
and that I will intervene as does a doctor
and I will accomplish miracles when they are needed.

Do you see that the sick person is getting worse?

Do not be upset, but close your eyes and say

“You take care of it.”

I say to you that I will take care of it,
and that there is no medicine more powerful
than my loving intervention.

By my love, I promise this to you.

