

God Opens Our Graves

It is not ghosts that come out of these graves, but a second chance at life. Ezekiel compares the reestablishment of ancient Israel after the exile with the dead rising alive from their graves. They are filled with God's spirit, God's power of life, and they have a second chance at living. Only the graciousness of God could imagine such a marvel; only the power of God could accomplish it. Jesus performs an even greater marvel. He actually brings Lazarus back from death, giving him a second chance at living. Once again, only the graciousness of God could imagine such a marvel; only the power of God could accomplish it. Jesus is that graciousness and that power, as he declares: "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25).

After its reestablishment, Israel was not immune to failure, nor was Lazarus exempt from eventual death. That was not the point. The point was a demonstration of divine generosity at that particular moment. As seen in the Gospel reading, the point is Jesus' self-identification: "I am the resurrection and the life." What follows is paradox: Those who live in him will not die; even if they die, they will live.

Joined to the one who is the resurrection and the life, we too will be raised from our graves and be transformed into a new life. We will never again face failure, as did the Israelites, or death, as did Lazarus, for the Spirit of Jesus will live in us.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ We were plunged into death and rose to new life at baptism. Does your life give evidence of this?
- ★ In what ways does your life manifest the Spirit working through you?



You shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and make you come up out of them, my people!
EZEKIEL 37:13

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL PARISH

114 MacDonald Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario P6B 1H3 Phone: (705) 942-8546 Fax: (705) 942-8674

Fifth Sunday of Lent — March 29, 2020

Then Jesus said,
"Did I not tell you that if you
Believe,
you will see the
Glory of God?"

-John 11:40

OFFICE HOURS:

By Ontario government decision

Due to COVID-19 virus

The office is closed

You may call the office and we will get back to you as soon as we can

SUNDAY MASSES

No masses

At this time

WEEKDAY LITURGIES

none

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Paul Conway

Deacons: Rev. Mr. Walter Morrow (retired)

Diocesan Order of Women: Raymonde Brant

Secretary: Sue Solomon

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Dan Drazenovich

Vincent LaRue

Outreach Member

Christian Formation Member

Randy Johnson

Finance Member

Liturgy Member

ADORATION CHAPEL

Come spend some time alone with the Lord!
Closed til further notice **Adorers needed....**

Please call either

Raffaella Medaglia 942-7891;

Susanne Quinn-Perron 450-7732

PRAYER LINE REQUESTS

to place a prayer request, please phone:

Laverne..... 942-7630 (ans. machine)

Betty.....649-3611 (ans. machine)

CHURCH ENVELOPES

If you would like to begin using parish donation envelopes, please contact the parish office.

E-MAIL: olgoodcoun@shaw.ca

WEBSITE: olgoodcounselssm.com

RECONCILIATION

(At this time by appointment)

SACRAMENT OF INITIATION

(Baptism) REGISTRATION FORMS are available for pick up in the foyer of the church.

MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish office.
A MINIMUM OF SIX MONTHS NOTICE IS REQUIRED.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you are sick and go to the hospital, please call the parish office 705-942-8546.

This will allow us to arrange that you have the Sacrament of the Sick and a Pastoral Visit. Also, Eucharist is brought once a week to those in the hospital by a Pastoral Team member.

"ON CALL" PRIEST

A priest is available in the city for emergencies 24/7.

You can notify the chaplain, nurse or nursing home coordinators to contact the priest ON CALL.

Readings for the Week of Monday March 30 to Sunday April 5, 2020

Date & Time	Readings
March 30 Monday	Isaiah 65.17-21 Ps 30.1-12 John 4.43-54
March 31 Tuesday	Ezekiel 47.1-12 Ps 46.1-8 John 5.1-16
April 1 Wednesday	Isaiah 7.10-14; 8.1 Ps 40.6-10 Hebrews 10.4-10 Luke 1.26-38
April 2 Thursday	Exodus 32.7-14 Ps 106.19-23 John 5.18-47
April 3 Friday	Wisdom 2.1-22 Ps 34.16-22 John 7.1-30
April 4 Saturday	Ezekiel 37:21-28 Jeremiah 31.10-13 John 11:45-56
Fifth Sunday in Lent April 5	Ezekiel 37.12-14 Ps 130.1-8 Romans 8.8-11 John 11.1-45

Development and Peace Share Lent Collection – an update on the situation

During these uncertain times because of the COVID-19 crisis, Development and Peace has made the decision to cancel or postpone all of its in-person meetings and events across Canada. Lent is a vital time of year for the organization, and so we invite you to participate to our virtual Share Lent campaign and act in solidarity with our partners in the Global South and the most vulnerable populations that will be all the more affected by this pandemic.

This Lent, give from the heart. Donate to Development and Peace today by making a **DIRECT** donation:

Online: devp.org/give
By phone: 1-888 664-3387
By mail:
 1425 Rene-Levesque Blvd W,
 3rd Floor,
 Montreal, QC, H3G 1T7

Thank you for your generosity.



Algoma Public Health is asking our community members and leaders for help to amplify two important messages:

- (a) all returning travelers to Algoma must stay home and avoid going out for 14 days; city services are available to help with groceries, etc.
 - (b) everyone must practice social distancing by staying 2 metres apart and avoiding close contact with others outside of their immediate family.
- People who are elderly, or who have underlying medical conditions should also stay home as much as possible.

Algoma Public Health - We are all in this together

<http://www.algomapublichealth.com/news/we-are-all-in-this-together/>

Dear Parishioners

I trust you are all doing the best to follow the directives that have been placed before us at this time. Each day as I celebrate mass I pray for all of you parishioners of Our Lady of Good Counsel. I wait in joyful hope when we will celebrate Eucharist together in our Worship space.

Praying in the Time of the Virus Crisis

How do we find that peace in the midst of so much anxiety and worry about the future? We can take precautions and be prudent, but we don't have to worry about what we can't control. We can trust that by turning to our God, we can rely on God's love and presence. We can take courage from a sense that we are not alone. And, we can let go of the anxieties and be brought deeper into that relationship which feels "at home" and reminds us of our truest self.

Most loving God, Creator of us all, we turn to you to care for your people in need. We thank you for your presence among us and the peace you offer us. Send us your Spirit to fill us with courage and hope, so that we might be your instruments of love and assistance for others in need. Through this crisis, may we come together, as people of faith in a crisis so often do by your grace, and may we come out of it more united and more determined to care for those most in need. Thank you for your fidelity and the graces we need these days.

Closing of all non-essential services, all parish properties.

At a press conference given yesterday, Ontario Premier Doug Ford ordered the **mandatory closure** of all non-essential services and workplaces, in an attempt to slow the spread of COVID-19. These measures will come into effect on **Tuesday March 24th at midnight and will be maintained for at least 14 days**. This includes all parish properties: church, hall, office, rectory. The Diocesan centre will also be closed as of Tuesday, March 24th at 4:30 pm.

With Masses being cancelled across the country the Daily TV Mass offers Mass each day on television and the internet.

Vision TV

Sunday - 8:00 AM
 Monday - Friday 8:00 AM & 12:00 PM

Saturday - 8:00 AM & 9:30 AM

YesTV

Sunday - 10:30 AM

Salt & Light

Sunday—11am and 10:30pm
 Monday-Saturday—6:30am, 11am, 3pm,
 10:30pm

Internet: Sunday only

veronica.church