



Third Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2020



ATTENTION

**All scheduled masses and events are cancelled due to the ban.
As a Parish Family we pray for all who are affected by COVID-19.
The Church & Rectory will remain closed until further notice.**

**If you had a mass scheduled or offered the Bread and Wine or Sanctuary Candle for a loved one,
for this week or the upcoming weeks, please call the rectory to reschedule to a later date.
We apologize for the inconvenience.**

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

**“They recognized him in the breaking of bread”
(Luke 24: 13-35)**

We are the Paschal People and therefore we are called to live in the joy of the Risen Jesus. Jesus has conquered death, has broken the chains of despair and sin, and has redeemed our humanity. Encouraged by his own Spirit, we live in the light of Christ and are called to shine this light in the lives of our brothers and sisters. May our hearts rejoice and our tongues proclaim full of joy in praise of the God of Life.

One of the consolations that always accompanies me in my priestly life are the words of Saint Irenaeus "the glory of God is man/woman fully alive." The Easter season is the time to glorify ourselves and enjoy ourselves intensely for the Life of the Risen Jesus who is the cause of our joy. Therefore, everything we do in and for our community makes us promoters of the glory of God that is manifested in each person. With great consolation I have seen the humble and heroic service of health personnel, doctors, nurses and many policemen and priests who, in defiance of the pandemic, have cared for the sick and their families these days. Every wiping of tears makes us see the truth that the glory of God is that man is fully alive.

Today's Gospel is familiar to us because it tells us of two disciples who meet the Risen Jesus on their way to Emmaus. Despite walking along the way for several miles, the two disciples are unable to recognize his presence. They will only recognize Him after living the experience of companionship. As Scripture says, "they recognized him in the breaking of the bread." May we also have the experience of recognizing the Risen Jesus as the true companion in our lives like Peter and Luke in today's readings. The company of Jesus will make our life a continuous conversion and encourage us to recognize him in the sacrificial action of the anonymous heroes of our society and also in prayer and especially "in the breaking of the bread." The Eucharist is the meeting place where the Risen Jesus wanted to stay with us.

The challenge that the first disciples had to recognize the Risen Christ is also our challenge. The signs that Jesus gave them will always be those that motivate us to recognize him: peace, joy, and hope. Many times these signs seem distant from our lives and will only show themselves in a dark way that will become light if we allow ourselves to be illuminated by his Word and by the witness of the community. Let us live this Easter season with the light received from those brothers and sisters who work tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of those in need and with the entire creation that let us cry out with joy that Christ is risen. May the beauty of this Easter season that occurs with the rebirth of flowers and a desire to live a life in fullness, make us sing with Saint John of the Cross “You passed through these groves with haste, and seeing them, You left them dressed with your beauty.”

Fr. Hernán, S.J.

“The Lord walks with the disciples of Emmaus and although he knows the reason for his disappointment, he does not impose himself, but asks and listens. He begins his ‘therapy of hope’. He leaves them the necessary time to make an internal journey and reach the bottom of their bitterness.” (Pope Francis)

Weekly Remembrances

**Bread & Wine
Tabernacle Candle
Memorial Candle
Memorial Candle**



~ For the safety & well being of
the People of our Parish Community
~ † For all the lives lost to
~ the COVID-19 Virus



SCRIPTURE READINGS

These readings are found complete on our parish web page (www.olmcsi.org). Click on "USCCB Daily Readings."

April 26: Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33
Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11
1 Peter 1:17-21

May 3: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14A, 36-41
Psalm 23:1-3A, 3B4, 5, 6
1 Peter 2:20B-25



KEEP CONNECTED WITH YOUR PARISH THROUGH FACEBOOK

Fr. Hernán and Fr. Marc and Fr Luis Mario are offering virtual Masses and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament through our Facebook page.

Connect and follow us to see these transmissions in your homes through our FaceBook Page: olmcsi Masses on Sundays; 10:00 am (English); 11:30 am (Spanish) Masses from Monday to Friday; 12:00 pm (Spanish); Thursdays 11am (English) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays at 7:00 pm (Spanish)

YOUR CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT – Please know how grateful our parish family is for your continued support of our ministries. Especially at this very difficult and trying times, your donations make a critical positive difference. In addition to dropping off your donations in the church rectory office, or mailing it, we can also do it online by following the simple steps below. You may support our parish today by using your debit or credit card or checking and savings account.

REGISTER for ONLINE GIVING - WeShare allows parishes to receive online gifts and give their parishioners a safe and easy way to do so. You are able to set up recurring donations and manage your online giving accounts. If you've never donated online before, signing up is easy! Customer service number 1-800-950-9952 or weshare@4lpi.com.

- Visit our church website and click Give Online. (Parish Website: olmcsi.org)
- Select the collection or event of your choice.
- Setup your donation or payment.
- If you wish you may choose Click Recurring Donation, then enter your donation amount and frequency.

Once you've added your account information, donations will automatically deduct from your account. It's that easy!

THANK YOU! We are short for words to thank you enough for your good heart. We pray for you earnestly from the bottom of our heart that you and your family be blessed in every way with good health, peace and prosperity. May the good Lord keep us all in the palm of His hands and make His face shine upon us.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION - It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

ACT OF SPRITUAL 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.

HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF MASS ONLINE - It can be weird and rather difficult to focus on the mass while watching at home. It has been a joy seeing the number of you who turn in for daily mass and for the Sunday masses. Keep it up. These following steps are to help you fully participate at the mass while you watch from the comfort of your home. **Set Up a Prayer Space:** Set up a space in your home for prayer. Consider covering a table with a tablecloth or another nice cloth of the seasonal liturgical color. Place a Bible, a candle and a cross or crucifix on the table.

- Straighten the space, and arrange enough furniture for all.
- Have everyone go to the bathroom, get drinks, wash faces and come prepared to attend Mass.
- Turn off and remove all devices that can distract from the space.
- Encourage everyone to prayerfully enter the mass.
- Before the Mass begins, light the candle.
- Then go to our FaceBook page to join the mass. (Schedule is listed above)
- During the Communion Rite, pray the **Act of Spiritual Communion printed above.**

CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF STATEN ISLAND - Catholic Charities of Staten Island provides help through Food Pantries, Senior Centers, and Case Management Services for eviction prevention & housing stabilization, utility stabilization, emergency food resources, and public benefits. For more information, please call 718-447-6330 x 2892. For help with Drug