

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Listen carefully to the passion of Christ as it unlocks the door that brings us to the true meaning of human life. Holding what seems like opposite polarities of human existence, it weaves us through the highest of triumphs and the darkest of tragedies. As we witness and meditate upon Jesus's last days on earth, we see most vividly that God is present in and through it all. God is not only the glue that holds all of life's seemingly opposing experiences together, but He is the One who offers incredible promise and hope on our road to fulfillment and eternal life. It was only through experiencing the burning agony of suffering's loneliness and heart-wrenching pain that Jesus experienced the joyful exultation of his resurrected self. There are profound lessons here for all of us to learn.



GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

Human beings are united in their suffering. When we find ourselves in a painful moment, our first reaction is "why me?" as if we are the only person on earth who ever encountered this challenge. Going through life with a "why me" attitude only finds us wallowing in the mire of self-pity and never seizing opportunities or graces. We walk in solidarity with every human being in the experience of suffering. Believing that the goal of life is the elimination or avoidance of suffering is simply an illusion that keeps us entrenched in a collective myth. This myth distorts us and limits us.

There are living witnesses among us showing how courage and determination can overcome any degree of hardship, pain, loss, or tragedy. Folks finding the normalcy of their lives suddenly torn asunder are faced with options: opportunity or despair, stay or leave. Jesus stands before us as the prime example of endurance and perseverance. He is the One who showed humility through both the triumphs of life (by learning to be humble) and the tragedies and injustices (by learning how to be obedient). To secular ears, this may be perceived as nonsense. But to those with the eyes of faith, they are pearls of great price.

True humility tempers the temptation we have to become complacent and prevents an excessive relishing of life's successes and affirmations. Learning obedience keeps us faithful to our relationship with God so that we can find the courage to endure any depth of hardship, disappointment, betrayal, or agony. While we may want our cup of suffering to be taken away, it simply cannot be. Somehow and somewhere in the seemingly opposing experiences life can deal us, God is present with His reassuring, compassionate, empowering, and persevering love. To be true to who we are and who God is, we must take up the cross of suffering, even when it's the hardest and most apparently senseless thing to do.

Only our soul can understand these things, but our minds cannot, so they continue to run to secular ideas and solutions to pain and hardship. It goes without saying that we need to do all we can to eliminate as much senseless, unjust suffering as possible. Hunger, violence, abuse, exploitation, rejection, prejudice, homelessness, disrespect for life, and a whole host of other sins all result in suffering that is within our control. Then, when we face the uncontrollable kind of suffering or find ourselves the victim of injustice, what do we do?

REFLECTION

Prayer for forgiveness

Lord, remember not only people of good will but also people of ill will. Do not remember only the sufferings that have been inflicted on us, but remember too the fruit we have bought as a result of this suffering: the comradeship and loyalty, the humility and courage, the generosity and greatness of heart that has grown out of it. And when they come to judgement, let all the fruits that we have borne be their forgiveness. *(Prayer found in Auschwitz).*

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY	APRIL 6
Isaiah 42:1-7; John 12:1-11	Mathilde and Fernand Latour
Private Mass	Jurich, Pitalo and Wade Family
Private Mass	
TUESDAY	APRIL 7
Isaiah 49:1-6; John 13:21-33, 36-38	Ms. Margaret Annette Galle
Private Mass	Elvin Asher Family
Private Mass	
WEDNESDAY	APRIL 8
Isaiah 50:4-9a; Matthew 26:14-25	Ms. Margaret G. Dietrick
Private Mass	Ms. Louise Halstead
Private Mass	
THURSDAY	APRIL 9
Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; John 13:1-15	No Morning Mass
Private Mass	No Morning Mass
Private Mass	
Holy Thursday Mass	Thomas & Mary Kelley
FRIDAY	APRIL 10
Isaiah 52:13—53:12; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; John 18:1—19:42	No Morning Mass
Private Mass	No Morning Mass
Private Mass	
SATURDAY	APRIL 11
Private Mass	No Morning Mass
Easter Vigil Mass	Congregation
SUNDAY	APRIL 12
Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9	Ms. Chandra Nicholson
Private Mass	Int. Ms. Toni Gunkel
Private Mass	Ms. Little J. Dewitt
Private Mass	Ms. Susie Jurich

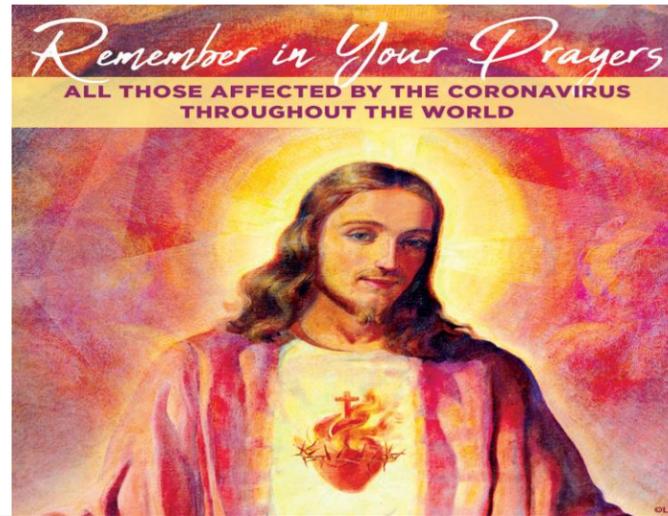
WEEKLY OFFERING

Sunday Collection.....\$4,062.50
 Catholic Relief Services.....\$ 64.00
 May God Bless You for your generous and faithful support



Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends: Rita Allen, Regina Papania Bell, Chris Bellman, Anthony David Belson, Elaine Belson, Walter Bolton, Bob & Ruth Boney, Glen Bosarge, Mercedes Bosarge, Carole Bourgeois, Sarah Broussard, Sybil Burchinal, Eileen Burkhardt, Arlene Burns, Carol Lee Cantin, Vicki Carter, Pat Cronin, Breanne Dalton, Gina Dasher, Marjorie DuBois, Betty Dugan, Jackie Endt, Fr. Bernie Farrell, Loretta Foster, LaJuan Fowler, Carmen Gaethe, Julian Galloway, Sandra Grantham, Danielle Gundlach, Doris Haynes, Donnie Hebert, Margaret Hebert, Ron & Mary Jo Hoogstra, Melissa James, Otis Kaufman, John Kiernan, Daisie Laborde, Barbara Langan, Catherine Lawrence, Erik Marcussen, Gordon Mathieu, Cheryl Megie, Bernie McGinley, Marie Meyers, Edna Miguez, Iva Misko, Donna Ncaise, Leonard Ncaise, Peggy and Edward Ncaise, Shirley and Travis Norman, Michael Punziano, Sarah Robinson, Carter James Sanders, Harold (Jimmy) Saylor, Jr., Sandy Senseney, Dale Seymour, Joyleen Seymour, Nell Stanton, Mary Terry, Virginia Thompson, Ann Tootle, Dolores Trenouth, Edna Trochesset, Ted Ursu, Ashley Vickers, Isabella Welch and Thane Williams.

Pray for Vocations



PRAY

Compassionate and Loving Father,

In the face of confusion and concern impart to us the calm of Your presence.

In You allow us to find hope and healing.

Be with those who serve the sick and give them Your caring hands.

Be with those who lead and give them Your spirit of wisdom.

Be with those who have fallen ill and give them Your comforting heart.

Wrap Your arms around our world and hold us in Your love.

Allow us at this time of trial to then serve as instruments of that love to all we meet.

We ask this in Your Name. Amen

Prayer of 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 into 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.



Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:
Beryl Bond, sister-in-law of Betty Noble of this parish, who passed away March 24th.
John Illich, father-in-law of Judy Illich of this parish, who passed away March 24th in Montgomery, Texas.
Donna Richmond, cousin of Rhonda Rosetti of this parish, who passed away March 24th.
 We extend our sympathy to each family and promise them a remembrance in our prayers. May God grant them eternal peace.



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2020 Catholic Sharing Appeal: Please remember to support the Catholic Sharing Appeal. This program supports the ministries of our Church and provides for many individuals in need each year. Every gift, regardless of size, is vital to the success of the Appeal. Please make all checks payable to the Catholic Sharing Appeal and mail directly to the Diocese. Our parish CSA goal for this year is \$59,603. We thank those who have already responded to help the less fortunate in our community.