



St. Gertrude Chicago E-Bulletin

Fourth Sunday of Easter - May 3, 2020

We will live-stream Mass from St. Gertrude Church at 10:30 am on Sunday, May 3, using Facebook Live! Please click [HERE](#) to be connected to our parish Facebook page. After Mass, we will upload the video to [our YouTube channel](#) and post the link [on our website](#).

Mary Clare Barker, our Music Minister, has created a song sheet with lyrics for music for the Mass [HERE](#). All the lyrics are also available at the bottom of this e-mail.

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From Father Rich

This past week, the governor extended the shelter-in-place order until at least the end of May. Please begin to imagine how we will be gathering when again we are able to celebrate Mass together. It will certainly require significant spacing between us -- except when you are sitting with those you live with. How might we do Communion lines? There is a committee from the Archdiocese which will be releasing some general guidelines soon that will provide us with an outline for our situations. But I think it is also important for all of us to anticipate some major changes in the way we will be celebrating liturgy for the next eighteen months to two years, or until whenever there is a vaccine for COVID-19. Part of this anticipation needs to help us "re-set" our minds. This won't happen

*Bulletin for the
Fourth Sunday of
Easter*

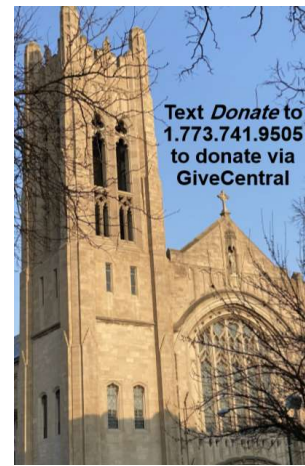
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overnight, and we need to continue to practice lots of patience with each other and with the situation.

Whether it is in returning to work, to shopping, to the gym, to church, to the lakefront, or whatever other activities we are able to resume, we will probably be doing ourselves and everyone around us a favor if we approach each of these situations with open minds and hearts, anticipating they will be different. And not looking for someone to blame for the inconvenience. It is important to remember no one of us is being singled out for punishment. This is the reality of this moment. Extra doses of patience, kindness, and mercy will go a long way towards making this easier for everyone.

Last Saturday, on the Feast of St, Mark, the Epistle reading contained this beautiful prayer from the first letter of Peter. It seems particularly appropriate for our current situation. You may want to pray it every day for a while:



Click to visit our COVID-19 Spiritual Help page.



Click [here](#) for a list of online and televised Masses.

*Beloved: Clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, **for God opposes the proud but bestows favor on the humble.***

So humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your worries upon him because he cares for you. Be sober and vigilant. Your opponent the Devil is prowling around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in faith, knowing that your brothers and sisters throughout the world undergo the same sufferings.

The God of all grace who called you to his eternal glory through Christ Jesus will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you after you have suffered a little.

To him be dominion forever. Amen.

Part of what we are going through now is the awakening awareness that we are probably not ever going back to a way of living we had gotten used to. Whether or not tomorrow is going to be better or worse is a different question. The reality is that the way we had grown used to is gone forever. Throughout our Judeo-Christian scriptures, we hear over and over our God saying, “I am making something new,” or “I am doing something new. Do you not perceive it?” Even knowing in our minds that we simply cannot stop going forward, or that stagnation always leads to death, does not mean we want to let go of the tried and true, the comfortable we were used to.

When Elisabeth Kubler-Ross did her ground-breaking work on grief, *On Death & Dying*, she found that while the “steps” of grief are pretty much required of everyone, the way each of us goes through that process is always unique to the individual. The stages she identified as she worked with terminally ill patients facing their own death are **denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance**. There is not a required order for how each person will go through these stages. Nor is it as simple as going through a stage and then that one is over for good. Each person may grapple with one or more stage only once, or perhaps many times. The ideal is that we have reached acceptance before we die.

At this point in the pandemic, the curiosity of the “shelter-at-home” experiment has worn off for many people. And with the arrival of springtime, the desire to be out and about, meeting friends, etc. is very strong. Which brushes up against the governor’s order, but even more, it brushes up against us doing what we want, when we want and where we want. At the same time, even if we weren’t becoming aware that what lies ahead is unknown, it would still be difficult to continue in this unique situation without some turmoil.

We have seen in recent weeks, certain leaders, and even whole nations, dismissing COVID-19 as a hoax, a trick, etc. (**Denial.**) We have also seen anger spilling over in certain state capitals as small groups of people were revolting against their governor’s stay-at-home orders. (**Anger.**) And I’m guessing by now every parent has been involved in serious negotiations with their children about what can and can’t be done before or after certain other things must or must not be done. (**Bargaining.**) What follows those kinds of feelings and activities are often feelings of helplessness, despair,

loneliness, and resignation. (**Depression.**) From my perspective, the depression-stage is the most debilitating and the most dangerous. Depression, often identified as internalized anger, reflects a loss of hope, an abandonment of the future. Depression sucks the life out of us.

I believe we have reached the point in our own experiences of the pandemic where it is important to spend some few minutes every day taking our own emotional “temperature.” How do I wake in the morning? Do I have a plan for the day? Am I hopeful that things will eventually be okay? Is getting my head off the pillow increasingly difficult? Do I dread what lies ahead in the next 24 hours? Do I find little things are setting me off? Have I forgotten what patience even looks like? If I find I am sad much of the time; if I wonder if I can continue doing this for much longer, and so on, it may well be time to seek professional help to get me through this period. Counselors, psychologists, and psychiatrists have helpful tools and processes to assist us when we slip into that darkness. Don’t be afraid or hesitant to use these resources!

Going through this process is emotional, psychological, and spiritual - which is also why their approaches are also so similar. From a spiritual perspective, allowing myself to re-engage a relationship to God can be very helpful. Placing our lives into God’s hands is an important and necessary step. That can begin with simple prayer -- being attentive to God for as many minutes as I can steal from the day. Minutes to quiet myself, to calm my troubled spirit, to center myself on what is truly important, to open myself to my higher power. Minutes to return to God the responsibility for the whole world and everyone in it.

Recently, while speaking with a friend about these feelings, she -- a therapist in her own practice -- recommended a recent interview in the Harvard Business Review with Scott Berinato. Mr. Berinato worked with Kubler-Ross for many years and offered two new insights I found particularly helpful. The first was the notion of “**anticipatory grief.**” This is the grief when we don’t know what the future holds. Where we are in the pandemic right now is filled with this kind of uncertainty.

The second new insight he offered was the addition of one more step in the grieving process which he defines as “**Meaning.**” It is not enough to simply accept what we have lost and where we find ourselves in this new reality. We also want to find meaning in the process. He identifies some of the

meaning in our ability to connect with each other technologically -- even if we can't physically re-connect. This is a new way of discovering we are not alone. That gives great meaning to what we are doing. Similarly, slowing down, appreciating the wonder of Creation in a daily walk -- all these experiences give us new meaning which surrounds us.

Finally, it is always worth remembering that in Christ Jesus we are never alone. He is always with us. But sometimes it takes a lot for us to remember that and to turn to him in all things -- especially when we are in moments of fear and uncertainty. The connection to Christ is the key. Throughout the letters of St. Paul, he speaks again and again of being "in Christ." When we are connected to Him, we know we are never alone, and all things are in God's hands.

[HERE](#) is the Harvard Business Review article. And, if you haven't read Kubler-Ross' *On Death & Dying*, I highly recommend it.

Reminder: Mother's Day is next Sunday -- a May Crowning will be part of next Sunday's 10:30 am live-stream Mass. I hope you can join us! Please stay healthy!

Readings for Sunday, May 3

Reading 1: Acts 2:14a, 36–41

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and proclaimed: "Let the whole house of Israel know for certain that God has made both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and they asked Peter and the other apostles, "What are we to do, my brothers?" Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call." He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand persons were added that day.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 23: 1–3a, 3b–4, 5, 6

R. (1) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

In verdant pastures he gives me repose;

beside restful waters he leads me;

he refreshes my soul.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

He guides me in right paths

for his name's sake.

Even though I walk in the dark valley

I fear no evil; for you are at my side.

With your rod and your staff

that give me courage.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

You spread the table before me

in the sight of my foes;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Only goodness and kindness follow me

all the days of my life;

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD

for years to come.

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Reading 2: 1 Pt 2:20b–25

Beloved: If you are patient when you suffer for doing what is good, this is a grace before God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example that you should follow in his footsteps.

He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.

When he was insulted, he returned no insult; when he suffered, he did not threaten; instead, he handed himself over to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body upon the cross, so that, free from sin, we might live for righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you had gone astray like sheep, but you have now returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel: Jn 10:1–10

Jesus said: “Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers.” Although Jesus used this figure of speech, the Pharisees did not realize what he was trying to tell them.

So Jesus said again, “Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.”



PDF of Music for This Sunday's Mass

Mary Clare Barker, our Music Minister, has created a song sheet with lyrics for music for our live-streamed Mass this Sunday at 10:30 am. A PDF is available [HERE](#). All the lyrics are also available at the bottom of this e-mail.



Growing in Faith Reflection

May is National Adoption Month...for good reason!

“Repent and be baptized....and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is made to you and your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call.” ~ Acts 2:14a

In today’s first reading, Peter begins to clarify the significant changes in the covenant with God that was brought about through the life and death of Jesus. When God first made a covenant with human beings—specifically, with Abraham—that covenant was extended through bloodlines: the blood descendants of Abraham. That is why we have the meticulous attention in the Old Testament to ancestry, with all those “begats.”

After Christ Jesus, the covenant with God is spread not through bloodlines but through adoption. We are initiated, through the sacrament of Baptism, into the body of Christ. And everyone is welcome through that sacramental door. And our relationship with God matures and is reconfirmed through the later sacraments: Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage, etc.

So, rather than being part of a chosen people--a bloodline--instead we are adopted into God’s family as part of a “call and response.” God chooses us because we choose God through Christ Jesus: the New Covenant is realized through mutuality, not through being a bona fide member of a favored race.

This month of May, during the Easter Season, is the month when we are reading the writings of the embryonic church: when apostles begin to articulate the depth and meaning of this New Covenant with God. May is also, so appropriately, National Adoption Month!

So, let us celebrate and honor those special adoptive families here in St. Gertrude Parish and throughout the globe. Those families, moved by the

Spirit, have opened their arms and hearts to children and made them their full heirs. What a beautiful reminder and example of how all of us, through Christ Jesus and aided by the Holy Spirit, have been welcomed into the people of God, as God's chosen ones.

~ KC Conway and Claire Conley for *Growing in Faith*

In Remembrance

Below are the names and photos of St. Gertrude parishioners who have passed away since the state's stay-at-home order began. Their memorials will have to be scheduled at a later date and will depend upon the wishes of the families. We ask that you keep them and their family and friends in your prayers.

Visit <https://stgertrudechicago.org/in-memoriam> for a list of those parishioners and loved ones of parishioners who have passed away since the beginning of the stay-at-home order. We welcome all requests for prayers for those that are sick, those hurting and stressed, and those who have passed away.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die." ~ John 11:25-26



Josephine & Luis Tapiru II

Link for Sunday's Youth Group

Below is the link for Sunday's virtual youth group Zoom meeting:

WOW Youth Group

Sunday, May 3 at 7:00 pm

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79442896328?pwd=Z3NOL0NmYWk5MmtqYUlvWjhBWjZlZWZz09>

Meeting ID: 794 4289 6328

Password: 014347

~ Jim Potthast, Youth & Family Minister



Faith & Coping

We have compiled a list of ways to ease stress and anxiety during these unsettling times [on our website](#). They include tips from parishioner KC Conway, a psychotherapist at The Center for Grief Recovery, suggestions of music from Mary Clare Barker, our Minister of Music, and much more!

We'd love to hear from you if you have suggestions for prayers, articles, and music! Email stgerbulletin@yahoo.com to share your thoughts.

Mundelein Seminary's Virtual May Crowning This Sunday, May 3 at 1:00 pm

Mundelein Seminary is hosting a virtual May crowning this Sunday at 1:00

pm. All are welcome to join rector Father John Kartje and seminarians from dioceses across the world in honoring our Blessed Mother.

Pre-Theologian Tim Berryhill (Chicago), president of the Confraternity of Our Lady, will crown the Mary statue in the Pope Saint John Paul II Chapel. Seminarians from the dioceses of Davenport, Dubuque, El Paso, Kiyinda-Mityana, Lafayette, Las Vegas, Lubbock, San Jose, St. Thomas Syro-Malabar, and Yakima will also contribute readings and musical selections.

Please visit the May Crowning page at www.usml.edu/maycrowning for more information.



Domestic Violence Resources Available

Since the stay at home order was issued in Illinois, calls to local agencies that help those in abusive relationships have sharply increased to record highs. Data from other areas that have been on lockdown longer than Illinois indicate that these numbers of domestic violence incidents will continue to grow.

Where to Call

The Department of Family and Support Services is the lead agency for the [Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline](#) and works exclusively with [The Network: Advocating Against Domestic Violence](#), a local nonprofit, to ensure residents have access to domestic violence support resources 24/7/365 – especially during this time of crisis. **The [Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline](#) (1.877.863.6338) is available 24/7 via call or text in over 240 languages.**

Uber/Lyft Rides Offer Free, Safe Transportation

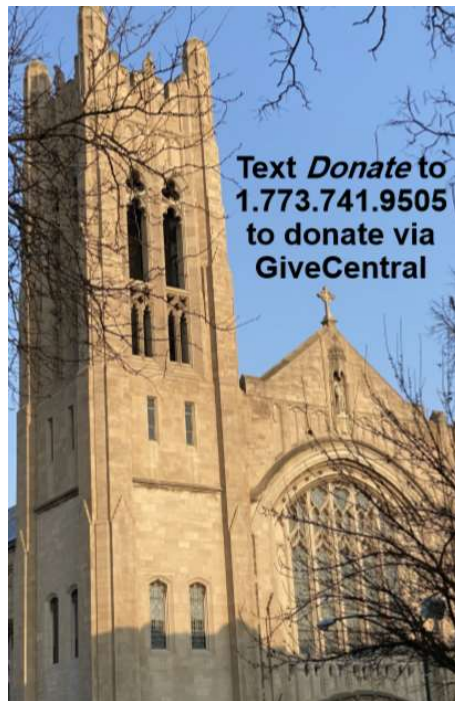
The City of Chicago partnered with Lyft and Uber to offer free rides to people who have contacted the Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline at

1.877.863.6338 in need of safe transportation. Ride requester's privacy will be protected by personnel at the hotline.

St. Gertrude's Domestic Violence Resource Page

The St. Gertrude website also has a [Domestic Violence information page](#) and a click-away button in the event someone is monitoring computer use. It lists specific information on abusive relationships, including:

- Where to Start
- Organizations that Provide Housing
- Legal Help
- Spanish-Speaking Assistance
- Asian, Arabic, & Korean Assistance
- LGBTQ Help
- Help for Teens & Young Adults
- Help Securing the Safety of Pets
- What Does Abuse Look Like?
- How to Help a Friend or Family Member
- Emotional Abuse
- Why Do People Stay in Abusive Relationships?



[St. Gertrude Parish Stewardship: Text to Give, GiveCentral, PayPal, Archdiocese](#)

[Link, Facebook Fundraiser, and Amazon Smile](#)

We thank everyone who has recently signed up with GiveCentral. We have had an increase in contributions and we greatly appreciate your generosity, care, and love for St. Gertrude.

Ways to Help Our Parish During the Stay-at-Home Order

We have set up a "Text to Give" option through GiveCentral. Parishioners are welcome to text the word **Donate** to 1.773.741.9505 to make a donation via phone.

We also have set up a [fundraiser on our Facebook page](#). All monies will go to support our parish's many ministries.

You can also donate via PayPal [HERE](#) to support our church.

The Archdiocese has [an online giving option via the Archdiocesan website](#). You simply click on the link and it takes you to the website. Once there, you determine if you want to contribute via a credit card or a checking account. You fill out the form, including selecting the parish to which the contribution is going, and the money will be electronically debited. The site offers options for amounts and the frequency of the contribution.

Visit [smile.amazon.com](#) and select St Gertrude Parish as your charity of choice. From then on, connect to Amazon through [smile.amazon.com](#) and St. Gertrude will automatically benefit as your charity of choice.

For more information on text to give or to sign up for online giving, please email Art Blumberg, Director of Parish Management and Facilities, at ablumberg@stgertrudechicago.org. He will be happy to help in any way he can.

[Click here to go to GiveCentral](#)

[Donate via PayPal](#)

[Donate via the Archdiocese website](#)



Info on Grab and Go Meals for Children and Families

NCA is distributing free prepackaged breakfast and lunches from our lunch provider Aramark. These lunches are for our free and reduced lunch students, but also for any family with children between the ages of 2-18 in our community who could use some extra assistance in getting food for their children. We also provide milk with each of these meals.

Please let Fr. Rich know at rpendergast@stgertrudechicago.org if this would be helpful for your family and we will figure out the details.

Chicago Public Schools distributes meals to families Monday-Friday from 9:00 am-1:00 pm. Families may pick up three days worth of meals for every child in their household. Please click [HERE](#) to find the closest pick-up location near you or someone you know.



Daily Scripture Readings

Our website has links to the daily readings for Masses [HERE](#). (*Scroll down the webpage to see the readings.*)

Here is the list of readings for this for parishioners that prefer to look them up:

Monday, May 3: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:11-18

Tuesday, May 5: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday, May 6: Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50

Thursday, May 7: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20

Friday, May 8: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6

Saturday, May 9: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14

Sunday, May 10: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12



Mass Intentions

Mass intentions for scheduled mass will be transferred to the private masses the parish priests (Fr. Mike Bradley, Fr. Mike Gabriel, and Fr. Rich Prendergast) will say during this time.

If those who requested/scheduled these Masses would prefer to have them moved to a different date, please leave a message at the Rectory at 773.764.3621 or email stgertrude1420@stgertrudechicago.org. Sr. Judith will re-schedule them.

- Monday, May 4 - First responders and essential workers working during the COVID-19 crisis
- Tuesday, May 5 - Glenn & Mary Jo Martin +
- Wednesday, May 6 - Josephine & Luis Tapiru II +
- Thursday, May 7 - Paul Foley +
- Friday, May 8 - James Michael Jeffers +
- Saturday, May 9 - Purgatorial Society, Noreen Tierney +
- Sunday, May 10 - Billy Tobin +, Living and deceased mothers of St. Gertrude parishioners

(+ indicates the person is deceased)



Ways to Help/If You Need Help: Upcoming New Client Info Session This Monday at Chicago Transitions Center

Are you or a loved one unemployed, underemployed, or unfulfilled? [Career Transition Center](#), founded by Catholic parishes, helps people get jobs. They are currently offering virtual training and support, including a virtual career coaching program. On Monday, May 4, they are offering a free new client info session at 11:00 am. Register to attend at ctchicago.org.

Call4Calm, a new hotline from the State of Illinois to connect residents to Mental Health and other resources, was launched. Text "TALK" or "HABLAR" to 552020 and a mental health professional will call you back. There are other keywords that can be texted to this number for access to other resources, including "UNEMPLOYMENT", "FOOD", or "SHELTER". This is a time of uncertainty, stress, and anxiety. Please do not keep your feelings bottled up, there is plenty of help available for neighbors who need it.

Looking for something to do? [Care for Real](#) is always in need of volunteers! Please reach out to Karen at volunteer@careforreal.org. She is overseeing scheduling and shifts available.

Our Heart to Heart Director, Jane Callahan-Moore, is also helping coordinate outreach to the elderly and shut-ins, including shopping and bringing food to those unable to get to the store. You can contact Jane by emailing her at jcallahanmoore@gmail.com.

Our Alderman, Harry Osterman, is coordinating local needs and service opportunities. His [website](#) has information on getting help during this crisis and giving help. Below are quick links to urgent community issues:

- [Community Response Fund](#) - Funds raised will help Care for Real purchase needed food and supplies for our neighbors in need, as well as help purchase medical supplies needed by our residents and care providers.
 - [Volunteer to be a part of the 48th Ward Community Response Team](#)
 - [Ask for daily check-in calls for yourself or a neighbor](#)
 - [How you can receive support from Care for Real](#)
 - [Get information on enrolling in emergency unemployment benefits](#)
-



Please Pray for Our Parishioners and Friends

- Walter Bradford
 - Ester Bugler
 - Aida Calvopina
 - Maggie Callaway
 - Geraldine Clark
 - Connie Cool
 - Mary Fitzgerald
 - Gina Heidkamp
 - Maria Hertl
 - Bernice Kiedysz
 - Karey Myers
 - Don Piven
 - Charley Scantlebury
 - David Sierzega
 - Richard Seitz
 - Peggy Stoffel
 - The Sullivan family
 - Elinora E. Tolentino
 - Norma E. Viray
-

The 2020 Census

One of the many items we need to pay attention to during this time is maintaining awareness of other activities that cannot be postponed. Uppermost is the 2020 Census. The census plays such a huge role in how representatives are distributed and how funds are allocated. Please be sure to complete the 2020 Census form online or via the paper form you may have received in the mail.

Prayer for People who are Infected with COVID-19 or Facing Quarantine

Jesus, during Your ministry on Earth You showed Your power and caring by healing people of all ages and stations of life from physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Be present now to people who need Your loving touch because of COVID-19. May they feel Your power of healing through the care of doctors and nurses.

Take away the fear, anxiety, and feelings of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine. Give them a sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease. Protect their families and friends and bring peace to all who love them.

~ Courtesy of World Vision <https://www.worldvision.org/disaster-relief-news-stories/prayers-people-affected-new-coronavirus>

Lyrics Sheet for Sunday, May 3, 2020

Canticle of the Sun by Marty Haugen

Refrain: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and all creation is shouting for joy. Come, dance in the forest, come, play in the field, and sing, sing to the glory of the Lord.

Verse: Praise for the sun, the bringer of day, he carries the light of the Lord in his rays; the moon and the stars who light up the way unto your throne.
(to refrain)

Glory to God from Mass of Spirit and Grace by Ricky Manalo

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We

praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory. Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer, you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Shepherd Me, O God by Marty Haugen

Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants beyond my fears, from death to life.

Like a Shepherd by Bob Dufford, SJ

Refrain: Like a shepherd he feeds his flock and gathers the lambs in his arms, Holding them carefully close to his heart, leading them home.

Verse: I myself will shepherd them, for others have led them a stray.

The lost I will rescue and heal their wounds and pasture them, giving them rest.

Take and Eat by Michael Joncas

Refrain: Take and eat, take and eat: this is my body given up for you.

Take and drink; take and drink: this is my blood given up for you.

Verse: I am the Word that spoke and light was made; I am the seed that died to be reborn;

I am the bread that comes from heav'n above; I am the vine that fills your cup with joy. (to refrain)

Rain Down by Jaime Cortez

Refrain: Rain down, rain down, rain down your love on your people.

Rain down, rain down, rain down your love, God of life.

Verse: God of creation, we long for your truth; you are the water of life that we thirst. Grant that your love and your peace touch our hearts, all of our hope lies in you. (to refrain)

Verse: Faithful and true is the word of our God. All of God's works are so worthy of trust. God's mercy falls on the just and the right; full of God's love is the earth. (to refrain)

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