

Welcome to Week 3

Welcome to April, usually one of my favorite months of the year. The days are certainly getting longer, and warmer (give or take a weather front). April used to be the first month of the year. In fact, the Latin root of April means to open, so hence the name April because it opens the year. This was the case for the longest time, until the calendar was changed, and January became the first month. When this occurred, many people who did not keep up with the change still believed that April first was New Years Day. These people came to be known as April Fools. Today, for many, April first means a day of pranks, and practical jokes.

This year we have no time for jokes or April Fools. This is a time for April Heroes, as we see all of those who work in health care not just the medical professional who are working without end, but those who maintain the health care facilities. Those who make sure the beds, linens, equipment is where it belongs. The Heroes who work in the Supermarkets and Food Stores, the Banks, drug Stores, Post Offices and Letter Carriers, Auto Techs, and so many more who are working on the front lines, Heroes like our Teachers who, who are conducting lessons on the internet. Students who are getting accustomed to this new way of learning and forced to do schoolwork when they are home and rather sleep or play. Parents and Care Givers who must supervise their children while many of them are working from home in the new normal.

As it has been said many times by many people, we are all in this together, and we are. However, we have always known this as Americans, and we have more importantly known this as we are all members of the Living Body of Christ, the Church. We are now about to enter the Holiest Week of the entire year. During this week, we will retrace the last days and moments of Jesus' earthly life, and we will reenter into the great mysteries of our salvation. While this year we are observing Holy Week and Easter so radically different, we still are going to observe them. We should do everything to celebrate, pray and remember the events of these days at home. We are attempting to record the Mass of the Lord's Supper (Holy Thursday evening), Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. We will then broadcast them on You Tube and our Face Book Page. The times will be listed when to view them on Flock Notes and Face Book. Please pray that we can accomplish this, and hopefully we will then do Sunday Masses from April 19th till we are back in the Church.

As I continue to look out my window, I see so many people coming to the Church to pray, and this is a sure sign that our faith is growing stronger, not weaker in these trying times. I also want to thank everyone for your kind thoughts and wishes you have sent in cards and messages. Fr. Hyacinth, Deacons Jim and Barry, and I are extremely grateful for these and your prayers. So far, we are doing fine and know I pray for you every single day and I feel your pain about not being able to attend Mass. Hopefully this will be over soon, from our lips to God's ears.

I want to thank the people who work and volunteer at our Parish Social Ministry. They are coming in to help give food to those in need, some of those in need are coming because they have lost their jobs to the Corona Virus, and this number is growing. We are in desperate need of food to help so many so if you can donate food, you can drop it off into the wooden box in the Church Lobby. Thank you for all who can respond to this urgent call.

Thank you also for your constant financial support to our beautiful parish. Your continued support is over whelming, but I must admit I am not totally surprised your generosity is something I know I can count on, because this is Saint Edward's. Let us continue to pray and support each other and let us pray that the end of April and the beginning of May will see and end to very unpleasant April fool.

God bless you always

Fr. Mike