

Welcome to the Holy Family Parishes of



SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2020

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"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." - Jn 10:2-3

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Our Lady of the Holy Rosary

Sacred Heart

Ss Philip & James

Mission Statement

A family of God constituted by the Holy Eucharist and strengthened by the Holy Spirit to make God known, loved and served.



Administration:

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Our Lady of the Holy Rosary

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Sacred Heart Church

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Cluster Office Hours

Monday: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Tuesday: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Telephone: 563-847-2271

Bulletin Deadline

Tuesday 12:00 noon

(unless otherwise noted).

- Sacrament of Baptism: Please call the cluster office for arrangements.
- Sacrament of Matrimony: Please contact Pastor 9 to 12 months prior to wedding date.

Diocese of Davenport—News Release!

DATE: April 28, 2020

FROM: Deacon David Montgomery
Diocese of Davenport

PHONE: 563-888-4222

EMAIL: montgomery@davenportdiocese.org

RE: Press Release

Our Dear People:

Since the arrival of the coronavirus pandemic, Catholics in Iowa have been obliged by civil, scientific, and church authorities to sacrifice the opportunity to receive sacraments and worship in common.

With the lifting of restrictions against certain public gatherings, including religious assemblies, by Governor Kim Reynolds, members of the faithful are understandably renewed in their hope that they might safely return to church and resume some form of regular parish life. Yet the spread of the COVID-19 disease remains a real and present danger. In particular, the health and survival of the elderly and other vulnerable populations is still a grave concern. Many parishioners and priests fall within these groups.

In light of the expectation that positive cases of COVID-19 will peak in Iowa in the next few weeks, we have decided it would be most prudent for now to continue to follow the liturgical restrictions we have in place, including the suspension of public Masses. Without an effective vaccine or widespread testing and contact data that justifies a change in course, we simply are not at a place where we can resume our previous prayer practices.

The suspension of the Sunday Mass obligation remains in effect statewide, and all vulnerable persons, the sick, and those may who have been exposed to the virus are asked to look after their own welfare with the support of those who care for them. We ask parish, school and diocesan staff to continue to minister to the faithful, and the faithful to each other, in ways other than meeting in groups during this difficult time of the pandemic. We strongly encourage parishioners to visit the website and social media outlets of the parishes and schools to stay in touch as we look forward to gathering in person.

We will continue to closely monitor the statewide and respective regional situations through the weeks of May and beyond. When the time comes that we can gather in greater numbers while observing social distance, safe hygienic practices and other precautions without placing one another at serious risk, public Masses and other sacramental celebrations will be allowed to resume.

These days are not easy. We understand that many of you are frustrated with this situation; so are we. We want to celebrate Mass with our parishioners and get back to “normal.” However, we take the advice of Paul: “Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer” (Romans 12:12). Take comfort in knowing that Jesus is with us and with you, our faithful.

Your Brothers in Christ,

Most Rev. Michael Jackels
Archbishop of Dubuque

Most Rev. Thomas Zinkula
Bishop of Davenport

Most Rev. R. Walker Nickless
Bishop of Sioux City

Most Rev. William Joensen
Bishop of Des Moines



“To pray is to stand before God’s eyes – it is God looking at me when I pray – without illusions, excuses or justifications.” Pope Francis

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

We are now in the Easter season, the period of fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost Sunday. Just as the Triduum consists of one liturgy that spans three days, so too the Easter season is one great Sunday, spanning fifty days. During this time the readings focus on the beginnings of our Church, the gifts of the Spirit, and the meaning and mission of discipleship. So this is the perfect time to remind ourselves of the power and presence of the Holy Spirit who was sent to us at Pentecost to help us continue the mission of Christ after his Ascension.

At our confirmation, the bishop made the sign of the cross with holy chrism on our foreheads, and said, "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit." The gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to Catholic Tradition, are heroic character traits Jesus possessed in abundance and freely shares with each of us. These traits are bestowed on us at our baptism and then sealed in the sacrament of confirmation, helping us grow in holiness. However, they do not appear spontaneously out of nowhere; they emerge gradually and develop through experience and prayer, helping us become more Christ like.

The gifts of the Holy Spirit are Wisdom, Understanding, Fortitude, Counsel, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord. Though they were given to us as gifts, it's up to us to put them to good use to strengthen our relationship with God. During this Easter season, when we are physically separated from the Mass and each other, we should remind ourselves of the gifts we were given, and pray to truly become "soldiers of Christ!"

Wisdom is the ability to view the world through God's perspective. With it we are able to see and evaluate all things (i.e. joy and sorrow, success and failure) through the eyes of God.

Understanding grants us the ability to comprehend the Scriptures, the messages they hold, and the meaning of Christ's teachings. The more we understand the teachings of the church, the more our faith is strengthened.

Counsel, also known as judgment, gives us the ability to judge what is good and evil and to act accordingly. It helps us to assess a situation correctly so we are always living our life

according to God's will.

Fortitude gives us the mental and emotional strength to face adversity, danger, or temptation. Fortitude helps us to persevere so we may reach our goal of being united with Christ in the afterlife.

Piety allows us to recognize our total reliance on God and come before Him with humility, trust, and love.

Knowledge helps us determine if we have all of our spiritual facts in order such as: are material objects and idols keeping us from putting God first? Are our sinful ways creating a roadblock between God and us? What is the state of our soul? Where do we need to make changes?

Fear of the Lord means we should fear the horror of sin and how sin separates us from the Lord. We should fear living, speaking, or acting in any way that offends the Lord.

Colleen Burke - Evangelization Team

From Pope Francis

The month of May is approaching, a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is traditional in this month to pray the Rosary at home within the family. The restrictions of the pandemic have made us come to appreciate all the more this "family" aspect, also from a spiritual point of view.

For this reason, **I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May.** This can be done either as a group or individually; you can decide according to your own situations, making the most of both opportunities. The key to doing this is always simplicity, and it is easy also on the internet to find good models of prayers to follow. In addition to praying the Rosary, Pope Francis has also added two prayers to be prayed in this current crisis.

FIRST PRAYER

O Mary,
You shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus' suffering, and persevered in your faith.
"Protectress of the Roman people",
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,
joy and celebration may return after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows

to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection.
Amen.

We fly to your protection,
O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions
in our necessities,
but deliver us always
from every danger,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.

SECOND PRAYER

"We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God".

In the present tragic situation, when the whole world is prey to suffering and anxiety, we fly to you, Mother of God and our Mother, and seek refuge under your protection.

Virgin Mary, turn your merciful eyes towards us amid this coronavirus pandemic. Comfort those who are distraught and mourn their loved ones who have died, and at times are buried in a way that grieves them deeply. Be close to those who are concerned for their loved ones who are sick and who, in order to prevent the spread of the disease, cannot be close to them. Fill with hope those who are troubled by the uncertainty of the future and the consequences for the economy and employment.

Mother of God and our Mother, pray for us to God, the Father of mercies, that this great suffering may end and that hope and peace may dawn anew. Plead with your divine Son, as you did at Cana, so that the families of the sick and the victims be comforted, and their hearts be opened to confidence and trust.

Protect those doctors, nurses, health workers and volunteers who are on the frontline of this emergency, and are risking their lives to save oth-

ers. Support their heroic effort and grant them strength, generosity and continued health.

Be close to those who assist the sick night and day, and to priests who, in their pastoral concern and fidelity to the Gospel, are trying to help and support everyone.

Blessed Virgin, illumine the minds of men and women engaged in scientific research, that they may find effective solutions to overcome this virus.

Support national leaders, that with wisdom, solicitude and generosity they may come to the aid of those lacking the basic necessities of life and may devise social and economic solutions inspired by farsightedness and solidarity.

Mary Most Holy, stir our consciences, so that the enormous funds invested in developing and stockpiling arms will instead be spent on promoting effective research on how to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

Beloved Mother, help us realize that we are all members of one great family and to recognize the bond that unites us, so that, in a spirit of fraternity and solidarity, we can help to alleviate countless situations of poverty and need. Make us strong in faith, persevering in service, constant in prayer.

Mary, Consolation of the afflicted, embrace all your children in distress and pray that God will stretch out his all-powerful hand and free us from this terrible pandemic, so that life can serenely resume its normal course.

To you, who shine on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope, do we entrust ourselves, O Clement, O Loving, O Sweet Virgin Mary. Amen.

LIVE THE LITURGY

When you wake up in the morning, whose voice is the first one you listen to? Your own? Someone else's? Or God? We all listen to someone and follow some sort of guidelines and principles. If it is a secular voice that propels us to get up in the morning and take up the task of the day's agenda, then we may find ourselves off track. The advice found in the Acts of the Apostles was as true then as it is now, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." Most of what we listen to in secular voices is off the axis of truth and distorted. It may sound attractive, but it is deceptive at best. Many have gone astray like sheep and need to return to the Good Shepherd. Only Jesus can offer us the gate of life, and only Jesus as the Good Shepherd can really motivate us to take on the challenges of life. If we don't recognize his voice, we can risk facing destruction. LPI

"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."

— Jn 10:9-10

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading Luke tells us that Peter often testified, "Save yourself from this corrupt generation." How is this message still applicable today?

Second Reading Peter asserts that the virtue of patience in one's suffering is a grace from God because Jesus modeled patient suffering. How does the exercise of this spiritual disposition help bring peace of mind?

Gospel Reading Using the metaphor of sheep and gate-keeper, Jesus teaches his disciples the importance of remaining focused on his voice. Why do you think people are so easily distracted from other voices?

Cluster Parish Prayer List

1. **Our Shepherds:**
Bishop Thomas Zinkula, Archbishop
Michael Jackels, Fr. Francis Odoom,
Deacon Mike Shiel
2. **The Aged & Infirm:**
 - Melvin Duwa, Elmer & Dorothy Hasenmiller,
Gloria Kagemann, Grace Kinney, Dick Nodurft,
Natalie Regan, & Carolyn Schwen
 - Betty Anderson, Jerica Christensen, Rich Kleineck,
Dennis Koppes, Wendy Larive, Leonard Lasack,
Rhonda Murphy, Carmie Nowachek, & Marilyn
Stevenson

ONLINE MASS OPTIONS

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Vatican News Live Stream of Pope Francis' Masses— www.vatican.va

Catholic TV Mass—
<https://www.watchthemass.com/>

EWTN Daily Mass—
<https://www.ewtn.com/tv/schedule>

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception— <https://www.ewtn.com/tv/schedule>

Daily Mass on YouTube - [Catholic Mass Today](#)

Archbishop Jackels online for Mass each Sunday morning at 9:00 am until public Masses resume: www.dbqarch.org/live-broadcasts

St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church on Facebook— Mass, family rosary, praying together, etc.—Follow the page to join.

St. Joseph Catholic Church on Facebook— Mass—Follow the page to join.

Dope Francis Prayer Intention **For May**

We pray that deacons, faithful in their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.

DAILY READINGS

Readings for the week of May 3, 2020

Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10

Monday: Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/Jn 10:11-18

Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [Ps 117:1a]/Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday: Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/Jn 12:44-50

Thursday: Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Jn 13:16-20

Friday: Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab [7bc]/Jn 14:1-6

Saturday: Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 14:7-14

Next Sunday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12