



## **Time Touches Eternity – Isn’t Beyond Our Control?**

**Reflection from Fr. John Phelps, C.Ss.R.**

**March 29, 2020 - 5th Sunday of Lent**

**Ezekiel 37:12-14 & John 11:1-45 with Romans 8:8-11**

Rising from the dead is what the first reading and the Gospel have in common. The way in which Lazarus was raised from the dead was done with such tenderness. As we reflect upon the situation in which we find ourselves with the virus, what do we hear?

Do we hear how fragile life is? Do we hear how no one is entitled to life no matter what our position in society, what we own or possess. The virus has a way of opening us to how interdependent we are, how our world is our common ground.

As we listen to the story of Lazarus, with whom do we identify? With Mary who is praying for God’s will to be done? With Martha who believes in the Resurrection and asks Jesus to intervene? With Thomas willing to go to Jerusalem and die with Him?

At any given time, depending upon what is happening in our lives, we may be like any of the central characters surrounding Jesus. Then, we might be like the bystanders. Maybe we don’t want to get involved. We want to be lost in the crowd.

With whomever we identify, one truth will be constant - we could use the same time we have to be like any one of them. It’s our decision how we use our time. What we value and believe is seen more by what we do with our time than what we say.

When St. Paul spoke to the Romans about the Spirit of Christ dwelling within us, did we pay attention? Did we hear what happened to us in baptism? Do we realize that what we do with our time is how we share the Spirit who dwells within us?

We have 168 hours every week ... 24 hours day ... and when it stops, we will be present forever. Is this truth? Jesus, is He our hope? Not the future but now! We become history. Our story defines our eternity. What a joy to know Jesus is there, is here - hope!

We have so much to be grateful for! We believe in Someone Who raised someone from the dead, who died himself and then was raised again. To know this story is to know Eucharist as Real Presence. We have time with social distancing to talk with him, what a gift! I pray you don’t miss the moment. Be ready to tell us what it’s like.

### **Response to Coronavirus**

Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, all public Masses in the Archdiocese of Detroit, as well as in-person faith formation programs and other parish events and meetings, are suspended indefinitely. Accordingly, any such scheduled parish events or meetings will either be converted to a tele/video conference or postponed.

If you have a private need, such as to arrange for a baptism, marriage, anointing of the sick, funeral or individual confession, please contact the Parish Office.

The “live” Parish Calendar, along with other information, are available on the parish website at [speccedetroit.org](http://speccedetroit.org).

Let’s continue to pray for one another!

### **Virtual Mass**

While you are unable to attend Mass in person, you can benefit by participating in Masses offered on TV or online. Check your TV listing for Masses offered on CTND, or go to <https://www.aod.org/livemasses>, or go to our website at [speccedetroit.org](http://speccedetroit.org).

Unfortunately, this does not include reception of the Eucharist, which is the “source and summit” of our liturgy. Therefore, during these Masses, you are given the opportunity to unite yourself to the Eucharist spiritually by reciting the **Act of Spiritual Communion** during Holy 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!*

### **Our Mission Statement**

Having reflected on the “four faces of our parish,” **St. Peter Claver Catholic Community**, chosen by the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, and under the guidance of Mary, resolves that: 1) we will provide more opportunities for deepening prayer life and faith life for youth, young adults, and adults; 2) we will initiate efforts to reach out and re-connect with those individuals and families who have disconnected from the Church; 3) we will collaborate with other faith communities and organizations within our parish to offer ecumenical events/activities (e.g., neighborhood clean-ups, prayer meetings, health fairs); and, 4) we will utilize resources within our parish community to advocate for education and to promote social justice issues.

## A Verse a Day For You to Pray

**Today: Ezekiel 37:14:** O my people! I will put my spirit in you that you may live, and I will settle you upon your land; thus you shall know that I am the LORD. I have promised, and I will do it, says the LORD.

**Monday: John 8:10-11:** Jesus said to the woman, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She replied, "No one, sir." Then Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin any more."

**Tuesday: John 8:23-24:** Jesus said to the Pharisees, "You belong to what is below, I belong to what is above. You belong to this world, but I do not belong to this world. That is why I told you that you will die in your sins. For if you do not believe that I AM, you will die in your sins."

**Wednesday: John 8:31-32:** Jesus said to those Jews who believed in him, "If you remain in my word, you will truly be my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

**Thursday: Genesis 17:7,9:** When Abram prostrated himself, God spoke to him: "I will maintain my covenant with you and your descendants after you throughout the ages as an everlasting pact, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you." God also said to Abraham: "On your part, you and your descendants after you must keep my covenant throughout the ages."

**Friday: Jeremiah 20:10d-11b:** All those who were my friends are on the watch for any misstep of mine. "Perhaps he will be trapped; then we can prevail, and take our vengeance on him." But the LORD is with me, like a mighty champion: my persecutors will stumble, they will not triumph.

**Saturday: Jeremiah 31:10:** Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, proclaim it on distant isles, and say: He who scattered Israel, now gathers them together, he guards them as a shepherd his flock.

*Note: All verses are taken from the Mass readings for the day.*

### Eucharistic Heart of Jesus Intercessory Prayer Team

Beverly Alessio, Inez (Retinella) Alls, Florine Anderson, Alberta Asmar, Sylvia Baker, Warren & Marcella Bridges, Donald & Barbara Carter, Michael Clarence Carter, Johnnie Davis, Peggy Endlein, Ara Grier, Sandra Griffin, Karen Hickman, Myrtis Hildebrandt, Jacqueline Johnson, Bobbie Lewis, Addison Martin, Augusta Martin, Dorothy (Vicki) Martin, Charles Nelson, Joan S. Noland, Nancy Oberhausen, Grady & Celestine Parker, Fred & Villa Ray, Romaine Redd, Flossie Ryles, Jeanne Schuld, Irene Scott, Gussie Seay, Augusta Starks, Mary Tyler, Christine Versele, Helen Wajda, Anna Washington, Lillie Washington, Wayne Weamer, Carmel Weems, Leonard & Ona Wilson

*Please Pray for Them as They Pray for Us!!*

### Also, Please Remember in Prayer:

Olivia Boulden, Christopher Durant, Rochelle Evans, Jesse Feagin, Kiara Harris, Marley Jonah, Mary Caroline Jonah, Johnetta Mutes, Elke Rittenhouse, Elaine Ryles, Charles Tilghman, Jon Viado, Vickee Viado, Constance Washington-Daniel, Larry Washington, and relatives of our parishioners

## Ministers Schedule

April 5, 2020

### No Mass Scheduled Due to Coronavirus.

Check your television listings for Masses on EWTN or CTND, or go to our website at [spcccdetroit.org](http://spcccdetroit.org).

## Meetings/Events This Week

Monday	4:00 pm	Parish Pastoral Council via Zoom Video Conference
Tuesday	10:00 am	St. Vincent de Paul at Mt. Lebanon
Wednesday	1:00 pm	Lectio Divina via Zoom Video Conference

Legend: PH=Parish House; MC=Marygrove College Church refers to the Sacred Heart Chapel at Marygrove College

## Collection Results

During these difficult times, we rely on your support. Weekly donations can be sent to the Parish Office. Or this is an excellent time to consider online giving. It's convenient, secure, and totally in your control!



[Give Online at spcccdetroit.org](http://spcccdetroit.org)

## Keep in Touch

During this difficult time, if you know someone who is alone, give them a call, or contact the Parish Office.

## Sacramental Preparation

Are you, or someone you know, interested in joining the Catholic Church or receiving one of the sacraments? Please contact Jennie Sinatra at the Parish Office.

## St. Peter Claver Catholic Community

Parish Office: 13305 Grove St., Detroit, MI 48235  
(313) 342-5292

Church: Marygrove College - Sacred Heart Chapel  
8425 W. McNichols Rd., Detroit, MI 48221  
email: [parishoffice@spcccdetroit.org](mailto:parishoffice@spcccdetroit.org)  
website: [www.spcccdetroit.org](http://www.spcccdetroit.org)

**Mass: Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m. in the Church**  
(Check the bulletin for holy days and special services)

**Reconciliation: Before Mass or By Appointment**

**Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday,**  
**9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

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**Reverend John Phelps, C.Ss.R., Pastor**

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Jennie Sinatra, Formation Director

Stephanie Flounory, Youth & Young Adult Minister

Mary Chavez-Thedford, Administrative Assistant

Ronald Gallesero, Facilities Manager

Tanda Flounory, Parish Pastoral Council Chair

LaTanya Mahdi, Finance Council Chair