

St. Mary Help of Christians Church

24588 County Road 7, St. Augusta, MN 56301

April 5, 2020



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD



"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." - Mt 21:9

PARISH: 320-252-1799

SCHOOL: 320-251-3937

WEBSITE: www.SMHOC.org

PRAYER LINE: 320-558-6187

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Matthew Crane, *Pastor*

Kelly Kirks, *Principal*

Shelly Gohmann, *Secretary*

Kathy Waletzko,

Music Director

Tracy Yarke

Promoter of Catechesis

MASS SCHEDULE

Suspended until further notice.

EVENING PRAYER & RECONCILIATION

Suspended until further notice.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Call the parish office for more information.

RCIA "RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS"

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Faith call the Parish Office.

BAPTISM PREP CLASS

April 13, 2020 at 6:30pm.

Call the Parish Office to register.

MARRIAGE PREP

Arrangements must be made at least 6 months before wedding. Call the Parish Office.

CEMETERY

JERRY KOLTES
320-252-1354

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the people of St Mary Help of Christians Parish, are called to love and serve the Lord through our lives.

Established in 1856, the church is the cornerstone around which we have built our community of faith.

We encourage all to participate through worship, education, and sharing of their gifts and talents.

With the strength of our families, the optimism of our youth, and the wisdom of our seniors, we strive to be advocates of the "Good News" as we continue to grow and change.

April 5, 2020

As we all continue following the governor's Stay at Home Order, I wanted to share a few things:

1. The phrasing of some questions I have recently received suggests that some think all celebrations of Holy Mass have been prohibited. This is not true. PUBLIC celebrations of Holy Mass have been suspended, but priests are still permitted and, in fact, encouraged to celebrate Mass privately. So I am doing every day, praying for your intentions, as I always have.

2. Out there on social media, I have seen people quoting the teaching of the Second Vatican Council that the Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life." Reflecting on this, I recognize the frustration people are experiencing, not being able to gather for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, but it also struck me that while it is the "source" and "summit," that does not make it the "whole" nor the "entire" of the Christian Life.

This is a good moment to reflect on whether or not, in fact, the whole of Catholic Life in the Diocese of Saint Cloud consists of public participation in Holy Mass. If it does, perhaps we need to allow our religion to take root more deeply in all the other aspects of our weekly life. Historically, Catholicism was not terribly welcome in Protestant America. In the days of the Thirteen Colonies, Catholicism was lived out and handed on primarily through devotions and other private exercises, its public profession being largely forbidden until after the Revolution.

3. Which spurred a thought for something we each might do while staying at home: write a little private devotional, for a memorial of the moment if not lifelong use. What will be your routine of prayer, of reflection, of education in the Faith during this time of quarantine? Grab a notebook and consider setting it down on paper. If you need inspiration, give the house a good scouring and look for those little devotionals, pamphlets, and other holy items that come in mailings from the missions and other charities, or were handed down to you by parents and grandparents.

Fr. Matthew Crane



A Holy Week CD featuring readings, psalms, and songs by SMHOC parishioners, will be available for pick up starting Friday, April 3rd. They can be found by the brown bulletin mailbox or on the rectory porch.



Condolences to *Scott Massmann and family* on the death of his father,

Daniel Massmann;

to *Terry Voigt and family* on the death of her sister, Sandra DeMarais Brenny;

to *Jim Rosha and family, Joan Jendro and family, Delrose Hinkemeyer and family* on the death of

her mother, to *Family and Friends* of Stella Rosha;

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and may the perpetual light shine upon them

While there is no Public Mass, please remember the following in your prayers:

6 Monday - ☩ David Loehrer

7 Tuesday - ☩ Vernon & ☩ Leona Storms

8 Wednesday - ☩ Paul Valerius

9 Thursday - **Holy Thursday**

10 Friday - **Good Friday**

11 Saturday - **Holy Saturday**

12 Sunday - **Easter Sunday**

Daily Readings:

Palm Sunday - April 5 – Gospel Matthew 21: 1-11; Isaiah 50:4-7; Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24; Philippians 2: 6-11; Gospel Matthew 26:14-27:66

April 6 – Isaiah 42:1-7; Psalm 27: 1, 2, 3, 13-14; Gospel John 12:1-11

April 7 – Isaiah 49:1-6; Psalm 71: 1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 & 17; Gospel John 13:21-33, 36-38

April 8 – Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 & 33-34; Gospel Matthew 26: 14-25

Holy Thursday - April 9 – Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14; Psalm 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Gospel John 13:1-15

Good Friday - April 10 – Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Gospel John 18:1-19:42

Holy Saturday – April 11

First Reading – Genesis 1:1-2:2; Psalm 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35

Second Reading – Genesis 22: 1-18; Psalm 16: 5, 8, 9-10, 11

Third Reading – Exodus 14:15-15:1; Exodus 15: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18

Fourth Reading – Isaiah 54:5-14; Psalm 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13

Fifth Reading – Isaiah 55: 1-11; Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6

Sixth Reading – Baruch 3: 9-15, 32-4:4; Psalm 19: 8, 9, 10, 11

Seventh Reading – Ezekiel 36:16-17a, 18-28; Psalm 42: 3, 5: 43:3, 4

Epistle – Romans 6:3-11

Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23

Gospel Matthew 28:1-10

Easter Sunday – April 12 – Acts of the Apostles 10:34a, 37-43; Psalm 118: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Colossians 3:1-4; Gospel John 20:1-9

Father Matthew's weekly homilies can be found on the parish website. Click on the UPDATES picture, scroll down and you will see his homilies listed.

Holy Thursday/Rice Bowl Collection and Good Friday Collection:

With no public masses during Holy Week, and the parish offices closed, if you would like to make a donation for the Rice Bowl Collection (Holy Thursday) and for the Christians in the Holy Land (Good Friday), please mail your check to the parish office with a note in the memo line for which collection you would like it donated to. Thank you!



Greetings from SMHOCS,

I came across this reflection this week by Debbie McDaniel: God never promised us this life would be easy, but He does promise this: He is bigger than any storm we face in this world. And He's always working for our good, even in the places where we can't see, even in the circumstances that we don't fully understand. He is with us, right in the midst of all we walk through.

Our storms might look different in this life, but they all have the opportunity to change us – forever. And God is the Only One who has the power to take what seems tragic and devastating to turn it around for good. It may not happen as quickly as we'd like, it may feel like a struggle; we might find ourselves longing for another way, but blessing will come from it. For it's the way God works. The "good" will shine through.

In some of the most difficult times in life, I've learned the power of praying God's words back to him. It alone holds the ability to soothe our souls, to refresh our spirits, and cause hope to rise above the pain we might be feeling. And though our circumstances may not be immediately changed, though our hearts may still be hurting, we're reminded through His Truth to set our eyes on Him. And that's the best place for them to be – in all of life.

Be assured today, He knows your way, He sees your pain, He hasn't forgotten you, and He's still at work, even through the most difficult of times.

A shout out to our amazing faculty and staff who continue to work countless hours to make distant learning a success.

God Bless, Kelly Kirks, Principal

From the Office of Marriage and Family: Now that you have extra time with your family, look for ways to see this as a blessing!! Here are some ideas:

Rhythm: Don't treat every day like a Saturday. Rise at a decent hour, have a schedule for homework and work, eat meals together at regular times. Include a bedtime (we recommend no phones in the bedrooms).

Creativity: Continue to try and be creative with your time. Continue brainstorming new ideas. Ask everyone to search for one new idea and bring to a family meeting. Then try them out together.

Fresh air: Try to spend some time outside each day. Some days it's not as easy in Minnesota, but it almost always helps everyone's mood, and helps them feel less "cooped up".

Movies: Take this opportunity to look for movies that are entertaining and inspiring. With all of our options (and there are many) it's easier than ever to find good movies for the family. Since there is time, try to discuss what you're going to watch and then talk about the movie afterward. Have the family rate the movie. Make different categories and let everyone weigh in. It's fun. And it can provide some teachable moments.

Information control: How much do the younger members of your family need to know at their age and who will tell them? Help them manage this in a good way.

Spiritual Resources/Prayers

- ◆ Daily Readings - go to www.usccb.org
- ◆ To view the diocesan-produced TV Mass online, or find the channel numbers vary based on location and type of TV service (cable, satellite, antenna), visit: www.stcdio.org/tvmass
- ◆ Livestream of daily Mass at St. John's Abbey, Collegeville <https://saintjohnsabbey.org/live>
- ◆ Livestream of Pope Francis' Masses <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxIsefyI9g9A5SGWA4FvGIA/videos>
- ◆ *Give Us This Day*, a monthly publication centered on the Word of God, is making available at no charge a digital file of its periodical, which includes daily Mass texts: www.GUTD.net/Digital.
- ◆ Downloadable prayer card seeking intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe (English) <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/upload/prayer-coronavirus-2020-card.pdf> (Spanish) <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/upload/prayer-coronavirus-2020-card-spanish.pdf>
- ◆ Text of pope's prayer to Mary during coronavirus pandemic <http://thecentralminnesotacatholic.org/text-of-popes-prayer-to-mary-during-coronavirus-pandemic>

Bishop's Annual Appeal: Thank you to everyone who has donated to the Appeal so far this year, especially during these trying times. As of March 27, the Appeal raised \$774,253 in gifts and pledges toward the goal \$1,300,000 to support diocesan ministries. Please remember that it is especially important at this time to support your parishes and **safely** reach out to family, neighbors and people in need.

Honoring Marriage Day Postponed: This annual event that was scheduled at St. Mary's Cathedral on Saturday, May 2, has been postponed. Those couples celebrating their 5th, 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60th plus will receive an invitation in the mail when a new date is selected.

The St. Augusta Legion will still be doing fish fry's on Friday nights thru Good Friday. Take out only 5pm to 7:30 pm. Please call ahead with order 320-252-6693.

Parish Contributions - The church is still operating and is in need of your continued financial support. Contributions can be mailed to the parish office.

At The Advertisers
LOOK Supporting Our
Church Bulletin