

ST. MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

A PARISH OF THE HOLY SAINTS AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY



The Rectory
June 21, 2020
The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
in tempore universalis contagii
In Time of Pandemic

Dear Parishioners of St. Mary Help of Christians,

As I reflected in the bulletin column this weekend, while the Holy Saints Area Catholic Community brings great gains to the Catholics of this region, it also, undeniably, brings particular losses to the parishes of the ACC. While the losses are not complete losses of essential elements of parochial structure, they are still losses of great good things, long appreciated by parishioners. For instance, as I pointed out in my letter last Sunday, St. Mary Help of Christians, starting July 1, will no longer have a 10 o'clock Mass on Sunday.

Fittingly, perhaps, and a bit bittersweet, the last 10 o'clock Mass will be part of the remnant of the 2020 Parish "Festival," June 28. Following that Mass, I will lead a procession to the cemetery, where we will have a brief ritual, the order of which I have written on the back of this letter.

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On the topic of Mass Times, I need to make a **correction**. In the final version of the plan, the ACC Planning Council made a slight adjustment to the schedule from how it was published in my letter last weekend. **The Sunday Mass at St. Wendelin's will be at 10 AM, not 10:30.**

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Matthew Crane

Fr. Matthew Crane

AN ORDER OF PRAYER FOR THE ENDINGS OF THINGS

This order of prayer is best celebrated in a cemetery, or in some other place where there are monuments to those persons and institutions that are no longer as they once were. Having gathered in a suitable place, the presider begins:

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

R./: Amen

P: Listen to the words of the Book of Ecclesiastes

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens. A time to give birth, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant. A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to tear down, and a time to build. A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance. A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them; a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces. A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away. A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to be silent, and a time to speak. A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

What profit have workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to mortals to be busied about. God has made everything appropriate to its time, but has put the timeless into their hearts so they cannot find out, from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

After the reading, the presider may give a brief response to the reading. Then, all present pray the Lord's Prayer

All: Our Father ...

Omitting the "amen" at the end of the Lord's Prayer, the presider prays the following:

P: Almighty Father, by the death and resurrection of your Son, you have shown light into every moment of darkness, brought joy to every pang of sorrow, and promised hope in the midst of every loss. Pour upon our hearts your Holy Spirit, that though we journey through this vale of tears, we may trust you. Through Christ Our Lord.

R./: Amen.

P: The Lord is with us always, even to the Ending of the Age

R./: Thanks be to God