

## **MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 12, 2020**

**SATURDAY (April 11) Holy Saturday**

**SUNDAY (April 12) EASTER SUNDAY**

8:00 Parishioners

10:30 Parishioners

**MONDAY (April 13)**

7:30 Helen O'Rourke

**TUESDAY (April 14)**

7:30 Rosa & Francesco Forte, requested by the Bria Family

**WEDNESDAY (April 15)**

7:30 Angelina Folotico

**THURSDAY (April 16)**

7:30 **NO MASS**

**FRIDAY (April 17)**

7:30 Helen O'Rourke, requested by Tom Deegan

**SATURDAY (April 18)**

9:00 Ann Dynan, requested by Rosemary & Joe Newberry

5:00 Helen & Joseph Tattar, requested by Gail

**SUNDAY (April 19)**

8:00 Francesco Russo, requested by Rocco & Michelina Docimo

10:30 Len Marino, requested by Joan Tedeschi

**ALLELUIA!**

**CHRIST**

**IS**

**RISEN**



**PLEASE NOTE.....**During this time of Corona virus crises I have left the chapel open. Feel free to come at any given time to pray and adore Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament. I know that some people have taken advantage of this opportunity. If you are afraid to come out and wish to remain secluded at home you could offer the following Spiritual Communion composed by Saint Alphonsus Ligouri:

***My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.  
I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot now 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.***

The Sanctuary Lamp for the week of April 12<sup>th</sup> will burn in loving memory of Joseph & Helen Tattar from Gail Taar.

If you would like the Sanctuary Lamp to burn in memory of a loved one, either living or deceased, call Fran at the parish office for further information.

### **DIVINE MERCY MOMENT.**

***Souls perish in spit of My bitter Passion. I am giving them the last hope of salvation; that is, the Feast of My Mercy. If they will not adore My mercy, they will perish for all eternity (Diary, 965).***

***My Heart overflows with great mercy for souls, and especially for poor sinners. If only they could understand that I am the best of Fathers to them and that it is for them that the Blood and Water flowed from My Heart as from a fount overflowing with mercy (Diary, 367).***

**ONLINE GIVING** allows you to provide your contributions electronically with weekly donations or by setting up recurring offerings, as you prefer. Sign-up is easy and this is already being used by some of our parishioners. **Instructions** for Online giving can be found at:

<https://www.stclementofstamford.com/uploads/1/0/6/1/106187663/onlinegivingmembers.pdf>  
and to login you can go to

<https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/4495>.

Dear Parishioners,

One of my favorite sayings of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who I was privileged to have met several times, is the following: **“Never let anything to fill your hearts with sorrow that you forget the joy of the Risen Lord.”** This saying came from a woman whose soul was inspired and enlightened by God to leave the comfort and security of her convent life and walls, and to go by herself to the slums of Calcutta to bring God’s love to the poorest of the poor. The enlightenment, the inspiration she experienced, lasted only about two years. Afterward, her soul was plunged in darkness for over forty-eight years, the rest of her life. But even in her darkness, she pushed through.

The disciples of Jesus experienced a similar darkness on that fateful first Good Friday. They had followed this Jesus of Nazareth for three years. They lived with Him and worked with Him. They were first hand witnesses to all the miraculous things He had done. He turned water into wine; He walked on water; He calmed raging storms; He took five loaves and two fishes and fed over five thousand people with it; He restored sight to the blind; the lamed He made to walk; and most of all, He restored biological to three people who had died. Now on this first and fateful Good Friday this powerful and mighty Jesus of Nazareth seemed so weak, so inept, so powerless, such a disastrous failure. He could not save Himself from the political and religious leaders of His time. He could not prevent His horrible and humiliating crucifixion. While He hung on the cross, passers-by taunted Him, jeered at Him, “You save others, now save yourself.” And again, “If you are truly the Son of God, then come down from the cross.” Jesus of Nazareth on that fateful and first Good Friday seemed sterile, powerless, and defeated by all the powers that be, even the power of death.

The disciples of Jesus experienced darkness in their souls, a lack of direction in their lives. They were overcome with fear. They felt so much let down. They had believed in this Jesus of Nazareth, and now they were disappointed. What a failure!

On that first Easter Sunday morning, Saints John and Peter ran to the tomb of Jesus. They at first peered in and then went in. They entered into the darkness of the tomb. And what did they find and not find? They found the burial cloth of Jesus just where they had laid the body. What they did not find was a body. Today, you and I my brothers and sisters are in the darkness of the empty tomb of Jesus in regards to the Corona virus and the havoc and disruptions it is causing in the world and our lives. It has caused so much uncertainties in our lives. It has called forth so many as yet unanswered questions. Will there ever be a cure for this virus? Will I contract this virus? Will I be able to go back living as I did pre Corona virus? Will I have the necessary finances to sustain my life, now that so many peoples’ jobs are in jeopardy? This virus has not only affected people physically but has also affected the world’s economy and our country’s economy as well. There are so many frightening and unanswered questions. It was the same for the disciples of Jesus on that fateful, first Good Friday leading up to Easter Sunday. The disciples were afraid, frightened and scared. Their world came crashing down. To whom should they turn to? What should they do? They had to first enter the darkness and desolation of the empty tomb of Jesus. We too are called to do the same. But the disciples did not stay in that tomb, and neither should we.

The disciples left the empty tomb to share this fact with the other disciples. And what happened when they left the empty tomb? They encountered the Risen Lord. And with that encounter their hearts were filled with joy. They ran off to share the Good News, the joy of the Risen Lord with the other disciples. Later on, the Risen Lord commissioned them to go to the whole and share this joy with it.

Regardless of what darkness and doubts, calamities and crises, trials and tribulations, fears and frights, unanswered questions that haunt us, we must never allow them to get the better of us. We are an Easter people. Jesus Christ our true God has conquered our worse enemies: sin, the devil, and death. When He walked the face of the earth, He cured many diseases, and He will cure this one as well. Jesus Christ came so that we may have life to the fullest, and let us always recall these words: **“never let anything so fill your heart with sorrow that you forget the Joy of the Risen Lord”** He is truly Risen, Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Fr. Carlos

SAINTS CORNER.

**Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are an Easter people and HALLELUJAH is our song.** St. John Paul II