

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 26, 2020

SATURDAY (April 25) St. Mark

9:00

5:00 Jeffrey Jablonsky, requested by Imperia & Vincenzo Guarino

SUNDAY (April 26)

8:00 Rocky Cuscuna, requested by Mickey Cuscuna & Family

10:30 Encar Montano, requested by the Paris-Ramos Family

MONDAY (April 27)

7:30

TUESDAY (April 28) St. Peter Chanel; St. Louis Grignon de Monfort

7:30 Rosaria & Lorenzo Bria, requested by the Bria Family

WEDNESDAY (April 29) St. Catherine of Siena

7:30 Vivienne Finn

THURSDAY (April 30) St. Pius V

7:30 NO MASS

FRIDAY (May 1) First Friday; St. Joseph the Worker

7:30

SATURDAY (May 2) St. Athanasius

9:00 Joseph Pierre-Gilles, requested by Marie Pierre-Gilles & Family

5:00 Maura Gallagher, requested by Jill Pinto & Family

SUNDAY (May 3)

8:00 Ed McHugh, requested by Family

10:30 Parishioners

LORD,

YOU

WILL

SHOW

US

THE

PATH

OF

LIFE

Although all weekday and Sunday Masses celebrated in the presence of the lay faithful are temporarily suspended, Fr. Carlos will continue to celebrate a daily private Mass to fulfill the requested Mass intentions, and to pray for our parish community.

CHAPEL

Our chapel is open twenty-four hours a day. Anyone can come and pray before the Blessed Sacrament. Of course it is always wise to practice physical distancing.

THANK YOU! to all who continue to support our parish by mailing in their contribution envelopes or contributing with the Online Giving. It is greatly appreciated, and it helps us to stay afloat. Hope you are all safe and well.

God bless,

Fr. Carlos



DIVINE MERCY MOMENT.

“Today a great storm woke me up, the wind was blowing and it was raining as if there was a hurricane, as well as a severe thunderstorm. I started praying so that the storm would not cause any damage; suddenly, I heard these words: ***Pray the chaplet that I have taught you and the storm will stop.*** Immediately I began to say the chaplet and I had not even finished it when the storm stopped and I heard these words: ***Through the chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you request is in agreement with My will***” (Diary, 1731).

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE from Louise Cronin

I am keeping all our families in my prayers and wish everyone good health and safety. The diocese will follow the mandated closure by the governor. The suspensions in the Diocese of Bridgeport will be extended to May 20th. As soon as the churches open, Father Carlos and I will set the date for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Please have the children practice their Act of Contrition formula and prayer. Thank you. Confirmation will be held in the fall. In September we will be given a specific date.

SAINT’S CORNER.

“We shall steer safely through every storm, so long as our heart is right, our intention fervent, our courage steadfast, and our trust fixed on God. If at times we are somewhat stunned by the tempest, never fear. Let us take breath, and go on afresh.” Saint Francis de Sales

Dear Parishioners,

On the third Sunday of Easter we are presented with the story of the two disciples of Jesus on the road to Emmaus. This story is particular to the Gospel of Luke. It is a very human story, and anyone or everyone of us can substitute ourselves for the disciples. There are two things that stand out in this story for us in regard to the current situation we are facing, the Corona virus. First of all, we could feel the disappointment and dejection in the souls of these two disciples, something we could all identify with at this time. Secondly, this story reminds us that the Risen Lord is with us, at this time.

It was that fateful first Easter Sunday, and these two disciples were on the road to Emmaus. Most likely they were returning home to their village. Three days before their lives were shattered, their world was turned upside down, all because of this Jesus the Nazarene in whom they had placed their hope. This Jesus was “a prophet mighty in deed and word before God,” and they were “hoping that He would be the one to redeem Israel.” Their hope was shattered, this powerful man, who was mighty in word and deed before God was now a failure. He was sterile. He allowed Himself to be crucified by the Roman government. No one puts their hope in what would be a failure, in what would be sterile. What a disappointment, what dejection for these two disciples. They were hoping that He “would be the one to redeem Israel.” To redeem Israel from what? The Roman government, and restore independence and peace and prosperity. They expected Jesus to be their political savior. But He did not deliver. Why? Their expectations were wrong. Jesus Christ did not come to redeem Israel, but the whole world. And to redeem us from what? Sin, our broken relationship with God.

At times we are no different from these two disciples. We want peace and prosperity for our country. We want a very vibrant and productive Stock Market, we want a booming economy, we want good paying jobs, we want security etc., etc.. But what happened recently? Our world like the world of these two disciples came crashing down. Our world was turned upside down by this Corona virus. It is so minute that it cannot be seen by the naked eye. Our economy is shattered, the stock market has plunged, the price of oil fell, some people have lost their jobs, everyday the number of people dying from this virus is increasing, the shelves in the stores are not packed with the groceries we need, we are in lock down, our institutions like schools and churches are closed. And the list can go on. What a disappointment, what dejection. We are no different from the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. They were looking for a way out.

Jesus Christ did not come to redeem us from viruses, an incompetent government, a broken or poor economy. Jesus Christ came to redeem us; to redeem us from sin, to save us from ourselves; to reconcile us to God the Father; to open the gates of Paradise for us; to offer us the most precious gift, **eternal life**. We just can't get better than that. To live in the presence of **LOVE** for all eternity. To contemplate that **LOVE** forever. The two disciples on the road to Emmaus experienced disappointment and dejection because they placed their hope in what they expected that Jesus would do instead of who Jesus is. It can be the same with us. Jesus' mission is His identity, He is Savior.

Secondly, in the midst of their disappointment and dejection the Risen Lord was journeying with them. They were so absorbed in their disappointment and perplexities. This Corona virus seems to be intimidating, every day we learn something new about it. Recently we learned that there are at least thirty strains to it. Will there ever be a cure for it? Will our lives go back to pre Corona virus? God is bigger than this virus and God has not abandoned us during this time. We worship a faithful God; a God who never abandons us. The eyes of the two disciples were opened when Jesus blessed and broke the bread. These are Eucharistic actions. God is always present to us in the Most Holy Eucharist. Jesus said to us, “I am with you always, even until the end of time.” As we journey to heaven, our homeland, God journeys with us. Because of their disappointment and dejection the two disciples, on the road to Emmaus, could not recognize the transformed glorified Risen Lord. And it is the same for us. In the midst of this Corona virus pandemic the Risen Lord is with us. We start our liturgical season with the assurance of Emmanuel-God with us. God is with us, not only during good times, but bad as well. God is with us in our disappointments and dejections. God is with us in our uncertainties, our questioning, and in our confusion. **Emmanuel-God is with us.**

Fr. Carlos

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