



The Parish Community of

SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA

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Parish Office: 973-729-1682 Fax: 973-729-0702

Love God, Love others and Make Disciples of Jesus Christ

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Trustees



Picture:aleteia

4th Sunday of Lent (Year A)

(LAETARE SUNDAY)

When we open ourselves to God's grace, we can be healed of that blindness of spirit that sometimes prevents us from following Jesus with freedom and joy.

CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

Sunday Mass will be live streaming on our Facebook page at 9:30 AM.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/saintkaterispartanaj>

We will continue to keep you updated through our website, E-mails, Flocknotes and Facebook.

To join Flocknotes (text message app) text "stkateri" to 84576.

OFFICE HOURS - At this time please call or e-mail the parish.

8:30 am – 3:00 pm : Monday – Thursday

8:30 am – 12:00 nn : Fridays (closed during summer)

Religious Edu. / Youth Min. 973 -729-0489

9:00 am – 3:00 pm: Tue. – Thurs. and by appointment

Grace from the Ordinary

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth...



He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" — which means Sent —. So he went and washed, and came back able to see. John 9:1, 6-7
Who was this man? Interestingly, he does not have a name. He is only referred to as the "man blind from

birth." This is significant in the Gospel of John because the lack of a name is also seen, for example, in the story of "the woman at the well." The fact that there is no name indicates that we should see ourselves in this story.

"Blindness" is our inability to see the hand of God at work all around us. We struggle to see the daily miracles of God's grace alive in our lives and alive in the lives of others. So the first thing we should do with this Scripture is strive to see our lack of sight. We should strive to realize that we so often do not see God at work. This realization will inspire us to desire a spiritual healing. It will invite us to want to see God at work.

The good news is obviously that Jesus cured this man, as He willingly cures us. To restore sight is easy for Jesus. So the first prayer we should pray as a result of this story is simply, "Lord, I want to see!" The humble realization of our blindness will invite God's grace to work. And if we do not humbly acknowledge our blindness, we will not be in a position to seek healing. How He heals this man is also significant. He uses His own spit to make mud and smear it on this man's eyes, which is not immediately that appealing. But it does reveal something quite significant to us. Namely, it reveals the fact that Jesus can use something exceptionally ordinary as a source of His divine grace!

If we look at this in a symbolic way we can come to some profound conclusions. Too often we look for God's action in the extraordinary. But He so often is present to us in that which is ordinary. Perhaps we will be tempted to think that God only works His grace through heroic acts of love or sacrifice. Perhaps we are tempted to think that God is not able to use our daily ordinary activities to perform His miracles. But this is not true. It is precisely those ordinary actions of life where God is present. He is present while washing the dishes, doing chores, driving a child to school, playing a game with a family member, carrying on a casual conversation or offering a helping hand. In fact, the more ordinary the activity, the more we should strive to see God at work. And when we do "see" Him at work in the ordinary activities of life, we will be healed of our spiritual blindness.

Reflect, today, upon this act of Jesus and allow our Lord to smear His spit and dirt on your eyes. Allow Him to give you the gift of spiritual sight. And as you begin to see His presence in your life, you will be amazed at the beauty you behold. (My Catholic Life)

Pictures provided by: Cross Catholic

† MASSES FOR THE WEEK †

Fr. Vidal will pray for your loved ones at a private Mass each day.

Monday, March 23: Lenten Weekday; St. Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop
8:15 AM

Tuesday, March 24: Lenten Weekday; St. Oscar Romero, Bishop and Martyr
8:15 AM

Wednesday, March 25: Annunciation of the Lord
8:15 AM Armstrong and Dolan Families

Thursday, March 26: Lenten Weekday
8:15 AM

Friday, March 27: Lenten Weekday
8:15 AM People of the Parish

Saturday, March 28: Fifth Sunday of Lent
5:00 PM Thomas Jennings

Sunday, March 29: Fifth Sunday of Lent
8:00 AM Ed Gallagher
9:30 AM Mike Facciolla
11:30 AM



Prayers for the Sick: We pray for Deacon Drew Calandriello, Margie Frazier, Al Saveriano, Henry Schubert, Liliana DiGangi, Tom Booth, Jason Duncan, Patrick Dillsworth, Brian Smith, Chris Auger, Margaret Brennan, Brittany Johnson, Karen Rendina.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK



Mon. Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54
Tue. Ez 47:1-9, 12; Jn 5:1-16
Wed. Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10;
Lk 1:26-38
Thur. Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47
Fri. Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Sat. Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Active Military Prayer List

Please pray for our Active Military:

Daniel Joseph (D.J.) Duguay, US Air Force; James Schoch, Infantry Second Lieutenant; Frank Cutrone, Second Lieutenant, US Army; LtCol Dan Murphy, US Marine Corps; LTJG Katherine Garza, US Navy; LTJG David Garza, US Navy; LCpl Josh Jackson US Marine Corps

May God keep them safe and protect them from all harm.

If you would like a love ones name added to the prayer list for the military, please call the parish center. 973-729-1682.

Thank you for being a faithful member of the Saint Kateri community. *By giving to our church on a regular basis, you're showing that our church has a meaningful place in your heart. We wanted to let you know that you're in our heart, too.*

Donating to the church allows us to preach the gospel, make disciples, and support others in our community who need help.

If you would like to talk with Fr. Vidal over the phone, don't hesitate to reach out. Call: 973-729-1682.

We earnestly appreciate your ongoing support and want to let you know we're here for you. You are a valued member of our church family.

If you would like to make a one time donation or on going donations to Saint Kateri, please visit: <https://saintkateri.org/electronic-giving> or consider the "bill pay" option through your personal bank account.

Faith Formation Corner

Saint Kateri Faith Formation classes are cancelled/suspended until further notice.

We have sent out online lessons and activities in order for families to continue learning about our Faith at home.

Please know that all First Communions and Confirmations are also suspended. Please read the details about this in the Bishop's letter in this bulletin or on our website. <https://www.patersondiocese.org/coronavirus>

Please refer to the section labeled: "**HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES FOR PASTORAL LIFE IN THE DIOCESE OF PATERSON**".

For all other questions about Faith Formation please contact Cheryl Wallace, DRE cherylw@saintkateri.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE

March 2020	Weekly	Month of March
Regular Collections		\$27,987
Week Ending 03/01/2020		
Regular Collection	\$8,724	
Maintenance Collection	1,218	
Ash Wednesday	1,126	
Week Ending 03/08/2020		
Regular Collection	\$9,736	
Project Faith	854	
Maintenance	57	
Easter Flowers & Ash Wed.	205	
Week Ending 03/15/2020		
Regular Collection	\$8,176	
Maintenance	\$465	
Easter Flowers + Ash Wed.	\$20	
Budget Monthly Expenses (including Loan Payments)		\$62,500
Month Net Income/(Expense) as of 03/08/2020		(\$34,513)

The second collection on March 29th will be for Debt Reduction. If you would like to contribute electronically visit our safe and secure

website at www.saintkateri.org/electronic-giving.

We are thankful for all those parishioners who contribute to the financial support of the church and who take stewardship so seriously.



SAVE THE DATE for Vacation Bible School coming to St. Kateri Parish **July 6-10, 2020 from 1-4 pm**. This year's theme is ***Cathletics: Training to Be Champions for Christ***. Each day will be packed with music, crafts, games, snacks and FAITH! All children entering kindergarten through 6th grade are invited to join the team and all students *entering* grades 7 and above are invited to be junior coaches and coaches! Adult mentors are also needed. Save the date... more information, registration and volunteer applications are coming soon! Make plans to be a part of an awesome Vacation Bible School at St. Kateri this summer!

Spiritual Communion Prayer

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. Amen.

Prayer from Paterson Diocese website.



My Dear Parishioners and Friends,

The present situation that we are experiencing right now about COVID19, brought panic to every individual, not only here in the United States but also in other parts of the world. Today's declaration of a pandemic is a call to action – for everyone, everywhere. Many business establishments have been closed. Schools have closed. Now is the time for the home to turn into schools and for parents to be teachers of their children. A good education begins at home. *“During these difficult days, we can find small, concrete gestures to express closeness and concreteness toward the people closest to us, a caress for our grandparents, a kiss for our children, for the people we love... These are important, decisive gestures. If we live these days like this, they won't be wasted.”* (Pope Francis)

Curfew from 8pm to 5am has been announced for the safety of everybody. I know that this pandemic affects our way of life. I know there's panic-buying and opportunistic people using the crisis to try to make money. If we have something to spare, let's share it. Let us help one another. Instead of fear and panic, let us pray and turn to God. Let's get to know God, follow and listen to his Words. That's the prayer.

From Monday – Friday here in our church, we are going to expose the Blessed Sacrament from 2-4 pm with the prayer of the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3pm. We need to ask God's loving mercy as we face these trials in life. You may come and pray and unite yourself in spiritual communion with the Lord.

I'll be celebrating private mass every Sunday at 9:30am - live streaming via the Saint Kateri Facebook. During week-days, I will celebrate mass also for the intention of that day (and praying for all of you).

Since we are in the season of Lent, and all of our liturgical celebration have been cancelled, I encourage you to practice the three pillars of Lent: PRAYER, FASTING, and ALMSGIVING, and offer it for those victims, for those who are suffering, and for those who had died.

It is very important that individuals with symptoms that may be due to the coronavirus and their household members please stay at home. Staying at home will help control the spread of the virus to friends, the wider community, and particularly the most vulnerable. Also, I urge you to fervently pray while at home, especially praying the rosary. Through the intercession of our Blessed Mother, may the Lord, in his mercy, deliver us from this present danger.

In Bishop's word *“We pray for the healing gifts of the Holy Spirit to descend upon all people during this critical period. In this time of trial, we depend on the mercy and goodness of God to protect us. Thank you for your cooperation and all necessary steps you take in order to minimize the spread of the coronavirus.”*

Any decisions in terms of Holy Week, the Chrism Mass, the Sacred Triduum, and Easter will be made as we monitor the situation.

My prayers,
Fr. Vidal



Adoration and Private Prayer

Adoration and Private Prayer will be held from 2:00 PM to 4:00PM Monday through Friday. Let us unite in spiritual prayer.

“The time you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the best time you will spend on earth. Each Moment that you spend with Jesus will deepen your union with Him and make your soul everlastingly more glorious and beautiful in Heaven, and will help bring about everlasting peace on earth.”

-Saint Teresa of Calcutta

Bishop Barron's Daily Mass and Lent Reflections can be found on the home page of our website: www.saintkateri.org.

Prayer of Pope Francis for Protection and Help

O Mary, you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm. You...know what we need, and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee, we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.

Under your protection, we seek refuge, Holy Mother of God. Do not disdain the entreaties of those of us who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.



DIOCESE OF PATERSON

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777 Valley Road
Clifton, New Jersey 07013

(973) 777-8818 fax (973) 777-8976

Office of
THE BISHOP

Health and Safety Measures for Pastoral Life in the Diocese of Paterson

Effective Immediately By Mandate of the Bishop

As the cases of coronavirus increase exponentially, it is a moral imperative for all people to do what is humanly possible to prevent the spread of the illness. Large gatherings of people have rapidly become a grave health risk. Therefore, I am making the following provisions for the Diocese of Paterson, effective immediately.

Suspension of Public Masses

All public Masses are hereby suspended in the Diocese of Paterson until further notice. Since the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life, all priests of the Diocese of Paterson must celebrate Mass privately for the good of all of the Christian faithful entrusted to their care and for all people during this critical time. Priests should celebrate this private Mass even if another priest or deacon cannot be with them to assist. Priests are reminded of the obligation to offer Mass for the intentions of those who have made an offering for the Mass.

We take to heart the admonition of Saint Paul: "Rejoice in hope, endure in afflictions, persevere in prayer." (Romans 12:12). This would be a time to encourage families to pray the Rosary at home, and to make the grace before meals a time for fathers and mothers, and all families, to center their homes on prayer and reliance upon God's mercy.

Suspension of Welcome Home to Healing Confessions, Lenten Penance Services

The Welcome Home to Healing initiative of Monday night confessions is suspended. Any scheduled Penance Services or Penitential Liturgies are suspended. Any gatherings of the faithful for private devotions such as the Stations of the Cross are also suspended. Our churches are to remain open to the faithful for private prayer. Please note that praying in large clusters or groups of people is prohibited. You must observe the government curfews.

Adoration and Private Prayer

Parishes are encouraged to expose the Blessed Sacrament for at least three hours each day so that the faithful may come and pray and unite themselves in spiritual communion with the Lord. The hours for Exposition and Adoration should be posted. Priests should administer the Sacrament of Penance or the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick to the Christian faithful who legitimately request those sacraments.

Suspension of the Sacrament of Confirmation

The celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation is hereby suspended in the Diocese of Paterson. Confirmation retreats should be deferred. As developments continue to unfold, we will assess the situation. When it is prudent, we will make the necessary arrangements for the celebration of the Sacrament.

First Penance and First Holy Communion

Since the celebrations of First Penance and First Holy Communion bring together large groups of people, both celebrations are to be deferred in all parishes until further notice.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

The celebration of baptisms, weddings and funeral is left to the discretion of the local pastor. The pastor must take into account the ongoing guidance from civil authorities regarding the acceptable size of crowds in public spaces. Every effort to guide couples with pastoral sensitivity must be made. Priests must always be attentive to the grieving and pray for God's mercy upon the departed. Should questions arise, please contact the Office of the Vicar General.

Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum

Any decision in terms of Holy Week, the Chrism Mass, the Sacred Triduum, and Easter will be made as we monitor the situation. Parishes will be advised in due time.

Thank you for your cooperation and all necessary steps you take in order to minimize the spread of the coronavirus. We pray for the healing gifts of the Holy Spirit to descend upon all people during this critical period. In this time of trial, we depend on the mercy and goodness of God to protect us.

Therefore, I urge all to join in fervent prayer, especially by praying the rosary. Through the intercession of our Blessed Mother, may the Lord, in his mercy, deliver us from this present danger.

All to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Paterson, this 16th day of March, 2020

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