



# Our Lady of Hope

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

**MASS SCHEDULE:**  
**Saturday: Vigil 4:00pm**  
**Sunday: 11am**  
**Monday, Tuesday & Friday 8am**

**CONFESSIONS:**  
**Saturdays 3:00 p.m.** or  
 anytime by appointment.

**BAPTISM:** For information, please contact the Rectory at 440-232-8166 during office hours.

**MARRIAGES:** Limited to registered parishioners only. Arrangements for date and time must be made six months in advance. Final preparations should be made five weeks before the wedding date.

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS (PRIESTHOOD/DIACONATE):** For information please contact the Diocese at 216-696-6525.

**PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION:** Please call Rectory office.

**REGISTRATION:** If you are new in the parish, please register at the rectory or online at our website. If you moved out of the parish, please notify the rectory.

*APRIL 12, 2020*  
**EASTER SUNDAY**

**400 CENTER ROAD, BEDFORD, OHIO 44146-2296**

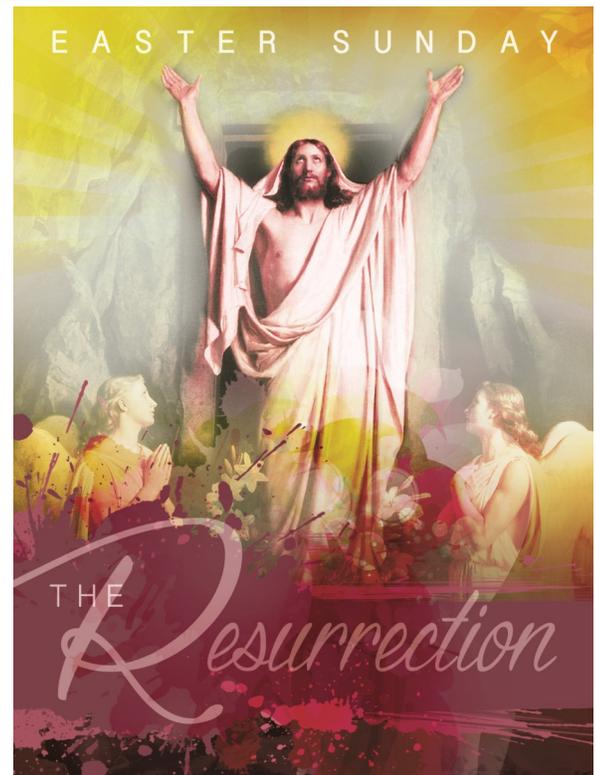
**Fr. Joe Seebauer—Pastor**  
 —[jseebauer.ccofbedford@gmail.com](mailto:jseebauer.ccofbedford@gmail.com)  
**Fr. Isidore Munishi—Pastoral Associate**  
 —216-394-7374  
**Rev. Mr. Bill Starkey—Deacon**  
 —[wstarkey@ourladyofhopebedford.org](mailto:wstarkey@ourladyofhopebedford.org)  
**Louise Martin—Pastoral Associate**  
**Verna J. Hudak—Secretary**  
**Bob Vano—Business Manager**  
**Bob Cooke—Maintenance Coordinator**  
**Loretta Gardner—Office Volunteer**  
**Chris McGilton—Music Director**

Office—(440) 232-8166  
 Office Fax—(440) 786-9929  
 Parish Website:

[www.ourladyofhopebedford.org](http://www.ourladyofhopebedford.org)

**RECTORY OFFICE HOURS**

Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays,  
 8:30am –12 noon and 12:30—2:30pm.  
 Anytime for emergencies.



When we awoke this morning, we found ourselves blessed with another day. It is Easter Sunday. As that thought crossed our minds, did we find ourselves saying “so what” or “alleluia”? For many, today is truly a day of alleluia. For others, it is just another day of “so what.” Faith makes a huge difference. It not only makes a difference in how we understand today and the significance of what we celebrate, it also makes a huge difference in terms of how we understand ourselves.

Life keeps us busy. We are always connected, distracted, occupied, and working. For many of us, an agenda awaits us before we even start our day, and unfinished stuff is brought with us when we retire at night. Make the best of life and “find your own road to happiness are messages we all too easily believe. The “so what” response to the new life of resurrection is often the result of believing that life is only what I make it. What God has to say isn’t important to me securing my next raise.

Sadly, we live as if the grave is the end. While we may give the wonder of heaven a blink now and then, its glory really doesn’t impress us or matter all that much. It’s all about the here and now and what I need to do today to get where I want to be tomorrow. We tend to put off considering the one significant “tomorrow” that will come the millisecond after we take our last breath. When that happens, will we want to be thinking “so what?” or “alleluia”?

There is only one Jesus, one mission, and one resurrection. There is also only one of us. Have you ever pondered what one solitary, humble human life can do? Faith, not our world, tells us how special we are. We are not robots. We are not replaceable. We have one shot. There are no do-overs. Love is at our core and unites us together as one with the God of love who so desperately wants us to be with Him forever. This may not match our secular agenda, but it ought to make our true inner agenda leap for joy. There doesn’t need to be an end. I can live forever. Alleluia!

**Readings for the week of April 12, 2020****HE IS RISEN!! ALLELUIA!!****Sunday, April 12****Easter Sunday**Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4  
or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or  
Mt 28:1-10**Monday, April 13**

Acts 2:14, 22-33/Mt 28:8-15

**Tuesday, April 14**

Acts 2:36-41/Jn 20:11-18

**Wednesday, April 15**

Acts 3:1-10/Lk 24:13-35

**Thursday, April 16**

Acts 3:11-26/Lk 24:35-48

**Friday, April 17**

Acts 4:1-12/Jn 21:1-14

**Saturday, April 18**

Acts 4:13-21/Mk 16:9-15

**Next Sunday, April 19****Divine Mercy Sunday**

Acts 2:42-47/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31

**SUNDAY & WEEKLY MASSES**

The Diocese of Cleveland presents a television Mass at 6 a.m. every Sunday on Fox 8 and at 11:30 a.m. Sundays on Cox Cable channel 45. The weekly Mass also can be viewed on the diocesan website. For more links to livestreamed, taped, television or radio Masses, go to [www.ourladyofhopebedford.org](http://www.ourladyofhopebedford.org).

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION****During the Coronavirus Pandemic**

Right now it is difficult for people to avail themselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If anyone feels that it is urgent that they receive this sacrament, please call the office and leave me a voicemail, and I will call you back to set up an individual appointment to go to confession. Pope Francis spoke about this situation recently since it affects the Universal Church. The Pope said: "Do what the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* says (CCC 1452). It is very clear: If you cannot find a priest to confess to, speak directly to God, your Father, and tell him the truth. Say, 'Lord, I did this, this, this..... Forgive me,' and ask for pardon with all your heart. Make an act of contrition and promise God, 'I will go to confession afterward, but forgive me now.' And immediately you will return to a state of grace with God."

**OLH & SM WEEKLY BULLETINS**

Going forward until Mass is resumed, we will have copies of both Our Lady of Hope and St. Mary bulletins available in the foyer outside of Our Lady of Hope office if you want to receive a hard copy. Bulletins are also available for viewing on either church website.

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE NEEDED . . .**

Please remember in your prayers all of the sick in our parish and families, especially: Jim Waple, Virginia Vitale, Mary Emling, Daniel Baran, Berta Ugucini, Carmen Whaley, Bernie Sylvester, Lil Kalal, Andy Mizesak, Matthew Reeve, Albert Finn, Alan Parker, James Smith, Harold Fischer, Ronald Richnavsky, Joe McElhone, Laverne Krempasky, Paul Melzer, Patricia Zak, Matthew J. Zamiska, Daisy Darus, Gerry Lantos, Louise Dragan, Ken Hudak, Maria Spears, Veda Wagner, Shirley Holmes, Frank Richnavsky, Eileen Salupo, Jim Goersmeyer, Shirley Manning, Albert Zak, Joseph Homa, Joanne Stewart, Anthony Sava, Dolores Hustack, Thomas Wagner, Florence Cartellone, Rosalie Skocaj, Jim Tench, and all those affected by the coronavirus throughout the world...

**ADULT FAITH FORMATION**

Unfortunately the parish devotions, bible studies, and other events had to be cancelled due to the Coronavirus. The Diocese of Cleveland, in conjunction with the Augustine Institute, is offering an online program called Formed that provides religious and spiritual content free of charge for the next 40 days. You can stream religious movies, view online bible studies, learn about the sacraments, along with many other catechetical opportunities. A link to the sign-up page for Formed can be found on the parish website. You will need to supply your name and your email address.

**OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS**

The Coronavirus has caused considerable economic difficulties for many of us. If you are able, Our Lady of Hope asks you to continue giving your regular weekly offertory. You can give online through the parish website, you can drop your envelope off in the mailbox at the office, you can mail in your envelope, or you can bring your envelopes to church once the public celebration of Mass is resumed. Thanks for your generosity in keeping our parish operational and vibrant.

**ONLINE GIVING**

Online Giving is as simple as...

1. Log onto [www.ourladyofhopebedford.org](http://www.ourladyofhopebedford.org) using any device.
2. Click One-Time or Recurring donations.
3. Select the form of payment you wish to use.
4. Funds will be deposited in the Church bank account.

Thank you for your generosity!!

**USEFUL WEBSITES**

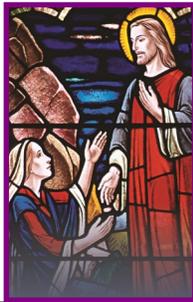
[www.bedfordoh.gov](http://www.bedfordoh.gov) gives information on Bedford city services during this Coronavirus pandemic.

[www.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://www.coronavirus.ohio.gov) gives the latest directives related to the Coronavirus, including closures and eventual re-openings in the State of Ohio.

Dear Parishioners,  
 “This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad” (Psalm 118:24). The Responsorial Psalm for Easter Sunday tells us that we should rejoice and be glad that Jesus is risen; He is truly risen. Bishops and priests around the world are having to get used to celebrating Mass without a congregation of the faithful. Even when a priest celebrates a Mass in private, he does so with an eye to the people of God and all their spiritual needs. On Easter we acknowledge that Jesus conquered death once and for all. The second reading for Easter Sunday from St. Paul to the Colossians said: “If you were raised with Christ, seek what is above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Think of what is above, not of what is on earth” (Col 3:1-2).

As all of us endure this period of physical isolation and inability to engage in our typically daily practices like going to Mass, we need to seek what is above and not what is on earth. If we focus too much on the Coronavirus and its effects, we can become disheartened and fearful. The Season of Easter should be a time of hope and joy. Take a cue from this year’s Easter Vigil Gospel. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were told by the angel that Jesus was raised from the dead. “Then they went away quickly from the tomb, fearful yet overjoyed” (Mt 28:8). Those are the two emotions most of us are feeling this Easter Sunday. “But behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them.” As we journey through this Season of Easter, may we constantly look for the Lord as he attempts to greet us along the way of our lives during this most troubling of times.

Easter Joy and Peace,  
 Father Joe



Dear Parish Family,

Thank you for supporting the request by our governor, bishops, and priests to isolate yourselves for a few weeks to help prevent the coronavirus (COVID-19) from spreading. We will miss shaking the hands of our neighbors and friends, and hugging our parents and relatives, but it is the only way to prevent passing the virus to them. Home confinement will have both a positive and negative impact upon our lives. The coronavirus is a new experience for the entire world. What we learn from this experience will help to prepare ways to prevent any future pandemics. While many of us fear globalization and unity between countries and cultures, it is happening nonetheless. We can no longer isolate ourselves

between two oceans and miss sharing in the positives and negatives of a global world. The good news is that we can follow the instructions of our national leaders, medical doctors, and spiritual guides to self-discipline ourselves so we can overcome this pandemic. The instructions are simple: place six feet between you and another person, wash your hands and shower frequently to wash away the virus, and use anti-bacterial products when water or soap is not present. Today we are not only suffering as individuals, but as entire communities, nations, and cultures. Self-control of our emotions and our trust that Our God will see us through these difficult times will help us to achieve success.

The Gospel for Easter Sunday tells us that: “While it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb to care for the dead body of Jesus whom she loved” (Jn 20:1). Easter celebrations in our parishes normally begin in the darkness of Saturday evening. This will not happen in our churches this year. We shall not be able to gather to celebrate Jesus’ victory over death on Sunday with a shared Eucharistic meal, but we will experience what the apostles felt at the arrest of Jesus. We will feel the disappointment of their broken hearts and the confusion over why this great man was being cut down as we struggle with an unexpected death of a friend or family member, the inconvenience of a missed graduation, or enduring a painful marriage situation.

Somehow, in the darkness of this Easter weekend, we will grow in confidence that we will see the sun rise on Easter Sunday morning. With expectant faith in the risen Lord, we shall overcome the darkness of coronavirus. On Easter Sunday let us renew our baptismal promises in our own homes and express our faith in our loving Father through Jesus. “Let us walk by faith, not by sight” (2 Cor 5:7). Jesus is risen! He has victory over the darkness, and He will manifest it in our lives. Rejoice in the risen Christ! Rejoice by faith! Rejoice, when you are still in your night, for Jesus is the Light, who is sure to dawn. (Pt 1:19)

Fr. Joseph Seebauer and I continue to pray for you and your families. We miss your physical presence in our parishes, but you remain with us in spirit. Don’t forget to pray for us also. Thank you for all your phone calls, cards, and the words of encouragement to us, your shepherds. Recognizing all the challenges you are facing, we encourage you to live in harmony, support each other, be positive and pray together in your families. We wish you all a Happy Easter, and may the Risen Lord calm your fears and increase your faith.

Fr. Isidore Munishi

