

Immaculate Conception, Oroville WA

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March 15, 2020 3rd Sunday of Lent

1st Reading: Exodus 17: 3-7
Resp. Psalm: Psalms 95: 1-2, 6-7, 8-9
2nd Reading: Romans 5: 1-2, 5-8
Gospel: John 4: 5-42

PASTOR

Rev. Luta Nsubuga
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MASS SCHEDULE:

Sunday Mass: 12:30pm
(English)
Sunday Mass: 2:00pm
(Spanish)

SACRAMENTS:

Baptism: Call the Office to register your child to be baptized or call the Pastor.

Confessions:

By appointment.

Quinceañera: Call the Office or the Pastor for more information.

Matrimony: By advance arrangements of at least six months.

Anointing of the Sick: At Mass, seasonally as announced, and individually of need. Call the Pastor.

Communion to the shut in: As requested. Call the Pastor.

Water of Eternal Life

Christ's encounter with the Samaritan woman is a model of what our Christian life should be. In her we see represented all those who wish to know Jesus. We also see the two sides of every path to conversion: on one hand there are man's desires: "give me something to drink"; and on the other hand, Jesus's proposal: "if you only knew the gift of God."

Sisters and Brothers:

1. Our Christian world is a new Samaria without borders. We journey alongside people of all walks of life. Some come from the purist paganism, with gods of money, pleasure, political parties, race, and violence. They, too, have learned about religion, and attend funerals, baptisms, and first communions. They participate in their neighborhood processions, but they are not living in accord with the Church. These are things that create tension and even hatred between those who have always been Christian and these new "Samaritans".

2. Modern day man and woman are thirsting. We, too, are thirsting. It is something we all experience. There are people who seem to have everything imaginable, but are still empty of God. Thirst is a good thing. He who is not thirsty will not seek springs of water. He who knows it all will never ask questions. He who thinks he is a saint will never ask forgiveness. He who thinks he is rich will not ask for anything. If someone has everything, why would he need Lenten conversion and Easter? There is a permanent thirst in man's heart: thirst for truth, for happiness, for love; thirst for fullness, for life. We need the Water of true Life, and only Christ can give it to us.

3. We have drawn water from the wells of the world for years and years, and this water never fully quenches our thirst. The Samaritan woman's experience has been repeated throughout the centuries in the lives of all men, for we are all sinners. We must not be like those people who say, "God doesn't listen to me." This is false. Maybe you need to make room in yourself for God. Even if you think He does not hear your pleas, he does! He knows your desires before you do! This Lent is a time for real prayer.

When man learns to pray, then he begins to truly grow, for he realizes that he needs another kind of food that the world cannot give. He may not use many words when he prays. He seeks not to understand, but to love and to be loved.

Sisters and brothers: This Lent I invite you to pray like the Samaritan woman: "Lord, I'm thirsting for you; I'm tired from the journey. Give me something to drink. You are the life of my life. Fill me with You." Then we will see, like St. Teresa of Avila, that "Whoever has God, lacks nothing; God alone is enough." Amen

Father Luta

CANCELATION OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES

To maintain health safety for everyone in our community during this time, church activities have been cancelled until further notice. The following activities have been cancelled:

Stations of the Cross

Catechism classes

Youth Group

Weekday Masses

Confessions

Lenten Retreat on March 21.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time.

SPECIAL MAGNIFICAT ANNOUNCEMENT

MAGNIFICAT to Give the Faithful Complimentary Access to its Entire Online Edition During this difficult time, many of the faithful across the United States and all around the world may be unable to attend Sunday or weekday Mass. As a service to the Church and to help the faithful sanctify their day, MAGNIFICAT has announced its decision to provide temporary [complimentary access to its online versions](#) of the daily prayer resource throughout the world, including in English: www.magnificat.com/free and Spanish: www.magnificat.com/gratis. MAGNIFICAT President Romain Lizé noted, "When you are used to going to Mass regularly, it can be spiritually difficult and frustrating when you cannot attend because of sickness or out of caution. We are honored to make this resource available to keep everyone united with the Church and to sanctify their day as it offers all the texts of Mass and prayers inspired by the Liturgy of the Hours."

[Access to its online edition](#) is being given to help the faithful pray with MAGNIFICAT in union with the Church each Sunday and weekday. Mr. Lizé added, "We are committed to making this resource available for as long as it takes to get this situation under control. In the meantime, we encourage everyone to pray with us for a speedy and safe end to this time of difficulty in our world."

For more information, please contact John Sacco at (914) 502-1848 or John@magnificat.com.

MASS ON TELEVISION

For those who are not able to attend Mass, know that you are able to watch Mass on several television networks. EWTN and Catholic TV are a couple of them, and you can also see many wonderful inspirational videos on formed.org. If you don't have an account, please let us know so we can give you a code to have formed.org free.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Almighty and Eternal God, You are the everlasting health of those who believe in You. Hear us for Your sick servant (name) for whom we implore the aid of Your tender mercy, that being restored to bodily health, he/she may give thanks to You in Your Church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

**Reading for next Sunday March 22th
4th Sunday of Lent**

1st Reading: First Samuel 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13

Resp. Psalm: Psalms 23: 1-3, 3-4, 5, 6

2nd Reading: Ephesians 5: 8-14

Gospel: John 9: 1-41

CORONA VIRUS PARROQUIAL AND DIOCESAN UPDATE

Dear Parishioners, at the moment of writing this message, I have not received any directives about canceling Mass in our Diocese, despite the fact that the Seattle Archdiocese has cancelled their Masses. As soon as I hear from our Bishop, I'll let you know. The Bishop has asked us to remain vigilant and take the necessary precautions in the midst of the Corona Virus outbreak. If you feel sick, please consider not coming to Mass. Most important of all, we have to pray. It's only God who can heal us and protect us from this pandemic. During Mass, we will continue to follow the precautions I laid out 2 weeks ago: No use of holy water, no shaking hands, especially during sign of peace, receiving only the BODY OF CHRIST during Communion, and using Hand sanitizer, as long as we have it available. Two weeks ago, I went to stores in Omak but there was no hand sanitizer. I even went to Osoyoos, Canada there was none! I also went on amazon.com. It was unavailable. We need to take precautions washing hands well.

Sincerely in Christ

Fr. Luta

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

Due to the outbreak of CORONA VIRUS, attendance at Mass has plummeted. If you are not able to come to Mass, I kindly ask you to pray at home, and remember to MAIL IN your weekly Sunday Contributions, so that we can continue carrying out the daily operations of the parish. The church depends on you to pay the bills for the operation of the church. Please mail it to the church address at: P.O. Box 308, Oroville, WA 98844. Thank you for your generosity and may God bless you.

Father Luta

CHURCH MAINTENANCE UPDATE

The interior paint has been completed. A big THANK YOU goes out to Tony Angel and the crew that assisted him. The sign and cross for our church have been sent to get powder coated. For now we are looking for any parishioners who have concrete and/or exterior paint experience. If you do, please leave your name and number with Armida, the secretary, so we may contact you about helping us with our church. Currently, Angela is looking into having exterior solar lights installed to light up our new sign. As of now there is now start date set for the exterior painting of the church nor for the installation of the sign and cross. If you are interested in helping out in any way please speak with Angela Raven after Mass. Thank you!

SPOKANE CARD PARTY***Spring Card Party and Luncheon
for Ladies and Gentlemen***

St. Francis of Assisi Church Parish Hall
Wednesday, March 25, 2020
Noon – 3:00 P.M.
\$10.00 per person



- * *Reserve your table by Friday, March 20th*
Call Gina at 509-328-4818 or
Renee at 509-995-3898
- * *Bridge and Pinochle cards are available or*
bring your own board games
- * *If you wish, come for a delicious lunch and*
visit with friends
- * *Raffle tickets for prizes may be purchased at*
the card party

A Women's Club Fundraiser

IMMACULATE HEART RETREAT CENTER

Contemplation in Action

Free Weeklong Work Retreat

“Grant Success to the Work of Our Hands”

Fr. Michael Savelesky

June 1, 6:00 pm check in June 5, 2020 1:00 pm depart

This cost-free retreat enables participants, embraced by an atmosphere of contemplation and quiet awareness, to be entrusted each day with tasks to perform either alone or in collaborative groups for the physical improvement of the facilities and grounds of the Retreat Center. After a day's labor (with breaks, of course!) Father Mike will refresh retreatants with a spiritual talk related to a facet of work. Bring your work gear and an open heart as God grants success to the work of our hands! Some of these activities are strenuous and may require strength and lifting.

Please register in advance: (509) 448-1224 or visit www.ihrc.net

CHRISM MASS

The faithful of the Diocese of Spokane are invited to the Chrism Mass which will be celebrated at **5:15 pm on Tuesday, March 31st** at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Lourdes. Bishop Daly will be joined by the priests of the diocese for this annual blessing of Holy Oils. The name of this Mass comes from the Sacred Chrism which is one of the oils to be blessed and then used for celebrations of Baptism, Confirmation and Ordination to the Priesthood. The other oils to be blessed are the Oil of the Sick And the Oil of Catechumens. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

IMMACULATE HEART RETREAT CENTER

Women's and Men's Holy Week Retreats

“The Death of the Messiah in the Gospels”

Fr. Leslie Hoppe, OFM, Ph.D.

Women's Retreat April 6-8

4:30 pm check in 1:00 pm depart

Men's Retreat April 9-11, 2020

4:30 pm check in 1:00 pm depart

Please register in advance: (509) 448-1224 or visit www.ihrc.net \$240 (includes meals and lodging) \$155 commuters (meals only).

IMMACULATE HEART RETREAT CENTER

Immaculate Heart Retreat Center

NEW DATE: MAY 1, 2020

Silent Day of Prayer on Overcoming Cancer

“Supernatural Oncology”

The Specialty of St. Peregrine Laziosi

Fr. Darrin Connall

Please register in advance: (509) 448-1224 or visit www.ihrc.net

A Day of Reflection and Planning: Our Spiritual and Corporal Needs

The Diocese of Spokane is collaborating with the Catholic Foundation of Eastern Washington and Holy Cross Funeral and Cemetery Services to host a **Day of Reflection and Planning**. The event will be on April 4th from 8:00am – 1:30pm at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Retreat Center, Spokane. There is no charge and breakfast pastries and lunch will be provided.

Topics: Preparing for eternity, Catholic health directives, last will and estate planning, leaving a legacy, What do we do when our loved ones die?, grieving the loss of loved ones, and finding God's mercy in death.

Guest speakers: Fr. Darrin Connall, Fr. Kyle Ratuiste, Kelly Durgan, Deacon John Ruschinsky, Pete Moye, Chris Kreslins, Greg Finch, Rick McLean

To register: please contact Lindsey Klemmer at the Catholic Diocese of Spokane at 509-358-7343 or by email lklemmer@dioceseofspokane.org.

IMMACULATE HEART RETREAT CENTER

Cancer Survivor Retreat for Women

NAME: Sr. Patricia Novak, OSF – Certified Spiritual Director and Retreat Facilitator

ORGANIZATION: Sponsored by **The Little Portion** – A ministry of the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia

LOCATION and DATE and Time: Immaculate Heart Retreat Center - 6910 S Ben Burr Rd, Spokane, WA 99223

March 27-29, 2020: Friday-7:00 PM – Sunday-1:00 PM

DESCRIPTION:

Women's Cancer Survivor Retreat • March 27-29, 2020 at Immaculate Heart Retreat Center

*Sponsored by The Little Portion - a ministry of the Sisters of St. Francis and facilitated by Sr. Patricia Novak, OSF Pamper yourself and share with other survivors. Join us for a weekend of relaxation, rest, presentation, sharing and more. You will even be treated to massage from head to toe as part of this one of a kind weekend. Limited to ten people • All Faiths Welcome • Scholarships available Begins 7:00 PM Friday, May 27th to Sunday, Mar. 29th at 1:00 PM • **RSVP by March 16th, 2020***

Contact Sr. Patricia at: (509) 241-3180 • pnovak.sjfc@gmail.com