

# FIFTH SORROWFUL MYSTERY

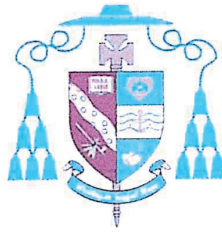
ישוע בן עמרם מלך המלכות  
ΙΗΣΟΥΣ ΝΑΖΑΡΕΤΙΝΟΣ Ο  
ΒΑΣΙΛΕΥΣ ΤΩΝ ΙΟΥΔΑΙΩΝ  
IESVS NAZARENVS REX IVDÆOR



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

*The Crucifixion*





## THE DIOCESE OF KALAMAZOO

*Renew Faith • Build Communion • Inspire Hope*

### OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

March 19, 2020

Solemnity of St. Joseph, Protector of the Universal Church

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Following upon the Letter I wrote to all of you on March 15, 2020, granting a general dispensation from the obligation to attend Holy Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, if an individual felt the need to do so, I now must write to extend that dispensation to all for the foreseeable future. I must admit that this is the most difficult challenge and heart-wrenching decision I have faced, not only as your Bishop, but in my life as a priest. Never could I imagine that I would be faced with such a need to restrict our people from coming together to celebrate this greatest act of worship that Jesus has given to us in the Eucharistic Celebration of the Holy Mass, especially as our Diocese is observing our "Year of the Eucharist".

However, in cooperation with the directives of the Center for Disease Control and the Governor of the State of Michigan, and in concert with my brother Bishops throughout the Province and our country, **beginning on Friday, March 20, 2020, all public celebrations of the Holy Mass are suspended until at least April 5, 2020.** We will be monitoring the situation throughout the coming weeks, and will make further decisions as the information is available to us. In addition, all other parish liturgical celebrations and gatherings are suspended for that same period of time. I am also issuing directives to our priests and parish leaders regarding the celebration of the other Sacraments and Rites (Confessions, Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, etc.), as well as expanded, updated guidelines related to the daily life of parish and Diocesan activity. I have also directed that our Diocesan Pastoral Center will close to the public at the end of the day on Thursday, March 19, 2020; however members of the Staff will be available by phone or internet for whatever special needs may arise.

Being unable to come to Mass and receive the Gift of the Eucharist is a huge sacrifice that we must make to protect the health and well-being of all those with whom we come in contact. While this restriction is temporary, and I pray, short-lived, our Faith life continues. We must stay strong in the practice of our Faith through our individual times of prayer, as well as increased family prayer times; our own spiritual reading and reflection on God's Holy Word; the praying of the Rosary; and other important devotions and spiritual practices. I have asked our priests to keep our churches unlocked and open as much as possible during this time of crisis, and I invite you to come to spend time in prayer and reflection with Jesus Present in the Blessed Sacrament, following all the other proscribed precautions of social distancing. I also want you to know that all our priests will continue celebrating Mass every day privately; I have asked them in particular to offer Masses

regularly for the intentions of the Faithful of their parishes and our Diocese, especially those who are sick, alone, and suffering in other ways during this time of crisis.

Additionally, beginning this Sunday, we will be live-streaming the Celebration of the Mass from our Mother of Mercy Chapel at the Diocesan Pastoral Center. You can find details and instructions on how to watch that live-stream Mass, as well as other opportunities to view and participate in online streamed Masses on our Diocesan website.

While we need to protect ourselves and our families, we also need to extend ourselves to our neighbors and fellow parishioners in works of charitable outreach, ever mindful of the most vulnerable among us, and offering the Corporal and Spiritual works of mercy that are most needed.

As we all know, Lent is a special time to reflect on our relationship with God and one another, and to turn away from sin and turn back to the Lord. This current crisis gives us many opportunities to practice the traditional Lenten penances of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving/works of mercy. The more we can see this time of crisis in this way, the more we will be able to have this very unusual Lent be, for all of us, a time of spiritual growth, strengthening and deepening of our commitment to follow Jesus on the Way of the Cross, and through the Cross, to the Glory of Easter.

May these beautiful words of Pope Francis help us as People of Faith: *"The Holy Spirit's hope deep in our hearts rekindles the certainty that we are precious because we are loved. It instills the trust that we are not alone. It is a hope that leaves peace and joy within, irrespective of what happens outside. It is a hope that has strong roots that none of life's storms can uproot."*

In the turbulence of the current "life storm" we are experiencing, may we all continue to be People of deep Faith, persevering Hope and generous Love as we stay faithful to our relationship with Jesus and His Church. Assuring you of my prayers and blessings for you and your families, and asking that we continue praying for one another, I remain

Faithfully yours in Christ,

*+ Paul J. Bradley*

Most Rev. Paul J. Bradley  
Bishop of Kalamazoo



# ST. MARTIN OF TOURS

5855 East W Avenue, PO BOX 264, Vicksburg, MI 49097  
(269) 649-1629 St. Vincent DePaul Ext 1010 www.stmartinvicksburg.org

## PARISH & MASS SCHEDULE

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>March 29</b>                                   | <b>Sunday</b>   |
| 8:00 a.m. Mass                                    | †George Zonyk<br>by Patricia & Dorman Wilson<br>No Religious Ed classes<br>For the people of St. Martin<br>No Youth Group |
| 11:00 a.m. Mass                                   |   |
| <b>March 30</b>                                   | <b>Monday</b>   |
|   | No Bible Study with Msgr. Martin  |
| <b>March 31</b>                                   | <b>Tuesday</b>  |
|   |   |
| <b>April 01</b>                                   | <b>Wednesday</b>  |
| 9:00a.m. Mass                                     | †Evan Shick by Margot Shick   |
| <b>April 02</b>                                   | <b>Thursday</b>   |
|   | No R.C.I.A.   |
| <b>April 03</b>                                   | <b>Friday Adoration</b>   |
| 8:00a.m.—9:00a.m.                                 | Adoration   |
| 9:00a.m. Mass                                     | †Tom Kelley by Leo & Devon Swiat<br>No Stations of the Cross  |
| <b>April 04</b>                                   | <b>Saturday</b>   |
| 5:30p.m. Mass                                     | No Mens group<br>†Toni Maxa by Fred Maxa  |
| <b>April 05</b>                                   | <b>Sunday</b>   |
| This week the Sanctuary Lamp burns for Tom Kelley | by Vicki Kelley   |
| 8:00 a.m. Mass                                    | †Larry Houghtaling by Jackie Houghtaling<br>No Religious Ed classes<br>For the people of St. Martin<br>No Youth Group     |
| 11:00 a.m. Mass                                   |   |



## Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:30p Sunday 8:00a & 11:00a Wed. & Fri. 9:00a  
Reconciliation on Saturdays 10:00-11:00a  
Office Hours: Monday—Friday 9:00a-4:00p

## ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH STAFF

**Pastor:** Msgr. Thomas A. Martin  
**Deacons:** Thomas Thamann and David Guido  
**Administrative Assistant:** Colleen Takacs  
**Bookkeeper:** Bobbie Appelgren  
**Director of Religious Education:** Tim McNamara  
**Coordinator of Youth Ministry:** Shannon Sheets  
**Pastoral Care/Liturgy/Receptionist M-W-F:** Sue Maneikis  
**Bulletin Editor/Receptionist T-TH:** Kathy Laske  
**Scrip Coordinator:** Dave Kosacek  
**Music/Choir Director:** Jane Mattison

## MARCH 29, 2020 - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

"Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' (John 11:40)

Many of us say that we believe in God. We go to church on Sunday. We volunteer for events at our parish. But when life gets hard and the pressure is on, when things aren't going our way, do we really believe and put our trust in the Lord? When we live a life of gratitude, being thankful for the gifts we have been given, we really do see that God is providing all that we need. It opens our hearts to see God's active presence in our daily lives.

## WORD OF LIFE

"With great openness and courage, we need to question how widespread is the culture of life today among individual Christians, families, groups and communities in our Dioceses. With equal clarity and determination we must identify the steps we are called to take in order to serve life in all its truth" (The Gospel of Life 95).

# Fifth Sunday Of Lent



## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Jody Cunningham, Fr. Frances Faracl,  
Judy Hansford, Gina Hygema,  
Vicki Pearl, Monica Pelto, Leo Swiat

## SPONSOR OF THE WEEK: ZEMLICK OFFICE PRODUCTS

Our bulletin is brought to us free of charge thanks to the generous support of our advertisers. Please continue your patronage of our advertisers.

## PARISH SUPPORT MARCH 15, 2020

Envelope: 15 Collection: \$1,380  
Weekly Goal: \$6,923



## INSIDE OUR PARISH

**MASS INTENTIONS** Please know that Msgr. Martin is offering the Mass intentions located on page 4 of this bulletin at his private Masses.



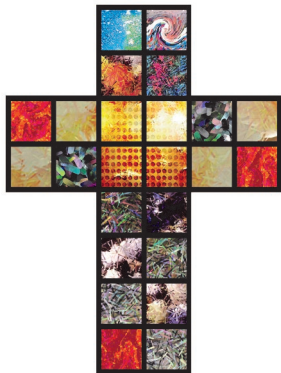
Prayer for the Coronavirus  
-Pedro de la Cruz

Lord Jesus Christ, our Divine Physician, we ask you to guard and protect us from Coronavirus COVID-19 and all serious illness. For all that have died from it, have mercy; for those that are ill now, bring healing. For those searching for a remedy, enlighten them; for medical caregivers helping the sick, strengthen and shield them. For those working to contain the spread, grant them success; for those afraid, grant peace. May your precious blood be our defense and salvation. By your grace, may you turn the evil of disease into moments of consolation and hope. May we always fear the contagion of sin more than any illness. We abandon ourselves to your infinite mercy.  
-Amen

5th Sunday of Lent

March 29, 2020

Trust Him. Trust that He deeply loves you. Trust that He has a plan for you. Trust that He is always with you. Trust that His mercy is far greater than any sin. Accept His love. Accept His love that led Him to the Cross. Accept His love that went through immense suffering so that He wouldn't have to live without you. Accept His love from His Sacred Heart that beats for you. Turn away from sin. Make a commitment today to continue to hold fast to your Lenten resolutions. Make a commitment to continue to seek Him even when it's hard and when life is busy.



*"I am the  
resurrection  
and  
the life."*

Join us during Lent to pray for an end to abortion! Beginning 2/26-4/5 Mon-Sat from 8a-8p. Call Joe for details @ 989.992.6085 or visit [40daysforlife.com/kalamazoo](http://40daysforlife.com/kalamazoo)



## AROUND THE DIOCESE

All non-essential Diocesan programming is being cancelled or postponed until Easter. As these events are rescheduled we will post the schedule on the Diocesan website, [diokzoo.org](http://diokzoo.org).



## DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Tim McNamara 269-649-1629 ext 1003

[dre@stmartinvicksburg.org](mailto:dre@stmartinvicksburg.org)

Per the direction of the Diocese of Kalamazoo, parish Religious Education has been suspended through Easter Sunday April 12. We will continue to monitor this situation in the coming days and weeks.

Prayers for our First Communion & Confirmation Students: As our First Communion (April 26) & Confirmation (June 14) students continue preparations for their respective sacraments, I want to encourage us all to hold up in prayer these precious souls & their families, that they may be disciples of Jesus Christ & witness to the love of God that He desires all of us to share in. I encourage us all as a parish family to offer little sacrifices to this end for these members of the faithful who are walking this journey of faith. Please consider attending Mass on these days (both at 11 am) to show your support and solidarity! Thank you each and God bless!

## YOUTH MINISTER:

Shannon Sheets 269-649-1629 ext 1001;

[ym@stmartinvicksburg.org](mailto:ym@stmartinvicksburg.org)

All youth group activities, including the Easter Egg Hunt, have been suspended through Easter per the Diocese of Kalamazoo. We look forward to returning to a regular schedule as soon as everyone is healthy!