

Dear parishioners,

Well another week has come and gone, and as the state begins to open up we can only hope Mass will be re-opened to the public soon. Archbishop should be making an announcement about that on May 6th, so when it is, please keep an eye on your email and Facebook for the temporary rules that will be in place when Mass is finally reopened. We will also be sending them out in the mail, so don't worry if you don't do the internet! This has been a rough few weeks for lots of us, and it's my hope and prayer that you have been taking the suffering and the inconveniences that you've been experiencing and uniting them to Jesus' sufferings on the Cross. This can be a valuable time to not only keep our faith but grow stronger in it, and there's nothing like redemptive suffering to help us grow in our faith. I've talked about this by both bulletin articles and homilies, but if you ever want to read an excellent explanation of redemptive suffering and its role in our redemption, please read Salvifici Doloris by Pope St. John Paul II. Here is a summary of the sixth chapter that I hope piques your interest and leads you to find out more about how suffering plays a role in our redemption.

Chapter Six: The Gospel of Suffering (nn. 25-27)

25. There is a "Gospel of Suffering" written by the witnesses of Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Mary, His Mother, is the foremost witness, because she was present at the side of Christ throughout His life, sharing in His suffering from Simeon's prophecy through to the Crucifixion. Christ told His disciples to bear hardships, carry their own crosses, and deny themselves, all of which are a sharing in His suffering, and which join His disciples to Him. The promise of suffering (often in the form of persecution for Christ) requires courage and fortitude, placing hope in Christ and His victory over the world through His suffering. The fact that Christ retains the wounds of the crucifixion even on His resurrected body is a testimony to suffering being more than an encounter with evil.

26. This Gospel of Suffering is also written by those who suffer with Christ, uniting their sufferings with His. Suffering has a revelatory character: it conceals a grace which draws a person close to Christ, resulting in a deep conversion by which the person is changed to the core. Suffering in the body also creates the opportunity for a display of interior maturity and spiritual heroism, setting an example of perseverance for others. Christ gave Mary a special motherhood over all people: as she was His mother in His suffering, so shall she be for all people in their suffering, teaching them to unite themselves to Christ. This interior process of uniting one's self to Christ does not come easily, because of the great question of "why". But Christ answers this question from the cross, saying "Take up your cross and follow me." In this way, the salvific meaning of suffering is revealed.

27. Suffering is a source of joy because, with its salvific meaning uncovered, it is no longer an experience of

uselessness and burden to others. Rather, the one who is suffering is actually doing their part to complete the sufferings of Christ in His Body the Church. Suffering provides an opportunity for grace.

May God bless you all, and know that you're in my prayers! Have a great week!

In Christ,

Fr. Carson

Please Pray For those who need prayers: Charlotte Meyer, Charlene Vap, Dora Behar, Cindy Wardlow, Colleen Schiltz, Jeanne Glaser, Patsy Hastings, Eileen Spellman, Linda Courtney, George F. Brown, Martha Begwin, Donna Schlitz, Jim Sheets, Asher Dailey, Tyson Rutter, Betty Pino, Kaye Cunningham, Barbara Spore, Alicia Aguilar, James Hess, Gabriel Dietz, Don Raulston, Joe Badley, Sandy Hudack, Pamela Cline, Sherry Burgell, Ben Delapaz, Tom Courtney, Mary Knori, Helen Bloxson, Jill Kestler, Dean Tate, Bertha Smith, Wendel Hacker, David Courtney, Joyce Johnson, Geneviva Kitchen, Dana Stahl, Lee Box, Barbara Carter, Mike Lessert, Mollien Koenig, Keke Johnson, Chasity Turner, Antonio Pasquarelli, John & Cecilia Cobble, Michael Rico, Jerry Vap, Denise Duffle, Sr. Vickie Dianne Bass, Albert Espinosa, Rex Maloney, Scarlett Padgett, Joyce Reutter, Carol Gray, Linda Wooters, Peggy Wilson, Michael Cole, Sr. Mary Clare, Sue Rice, Stan Loughridge, Mike Gray, Lois Bickle

**Weekly Income Report
May 3, 2020**

Weekly Collection \$ 6,266.00

LOOKING ahead... May 11-17, 2020

Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday	6:00pm	CONFESSION, <u>Church Steps</u>
Thursday	6:00pm	CONFESSION, <u>Church Steps</u>
Friday	12:00pm	CONFESSION, <u>Church Steps</u>
Saturday	3:30pm	CONFESSION, <u>Church Steps</u>
Sunday		

ALL RETREATS, MEETINGS, STUDIES, BRUNCHES, etc. ARE CANCELLED UNTIL APRIL 30TH. Keep our children, catechumens and all parishioners in your prayers.

Dear Friends of the Catholic Family Conference, It is with a heavy heart that we must announce that the 21st Annual Midwest Catholic Family Conference that was scheduled to be held August 7-9, 2020 in Wichita, Kansas is cancelled.

The current situation with the COVID-19 and the uncertainty of the future is the driving force behind this decision. They are hoping to bring the conference back for August 6-8, 2021.



MONDAY, MAY 11, 2020

9:00am Spec. Int. David Courtney/Tom & Pat Courtney

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2020

9:00am †Jim Smith/John & Neta Hercyk

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2020

9:00am †Carl Giddens/Mary Ann Giddens

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2020

9:00am Spec. Int. Jim Becker & Family/Leanna Rexford

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2020

9:00am †James Brown/George & Sheila Rahme

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2020

9:00am Spec. Int. Fred M. Spellman & Family/Eileen Spellman

SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2020

9:00am †Carol Stewart/Leanna Rexford
†Helen Voegele/St. Francis Altar Society

DID YOU KNOW.....that if you are age 70 ½ or older then:

- You may make a donation to charities (including the church) directly from your traditional IRA? This is called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).
- Such a donation will satisfy your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)?
- This donation will not be included in your Adjusted Gross Income on your tax return.
- This strategy may provide significant tax advantages because you can still use your standard deduction, and you may also decrease the amount of taxes you pay on social security.

Contact your financial advisor or tax professional for more details to see if this fits your situation.

First Holy Communion has been rescheduled for Sunday, June 14th at the 11 am Mass.

Reconciliation for First Communicants will be **Saturday, June 13th at 10 am.**

Rehearsal for Mass will be **Wednesday, June 10th @6:30 pm.**

Please contact Bridgit with any questions or concerns: drestmarys@gmail.com or 505-870-4339

The Wild Goose reflections

Archbishop Coakley invites you to reacquaint yourself with the Holy Spirit through a seven-week video reflection by The Ministry of the Wild Goose. The videos will help guide you through the Easter season to Pentecost. To receive weekly text message reminders with links to the recommended Wild Goose videos, text WGOKC to 84576. Visit archokc.org/wildgoose.

St. Mary's Catholic School - Benefit Golf

Tournament is coming up on

Saturday, June 13, 2020

If you would like to sponsor a hole or play in the tournament, we encourage you to get signed up! Registration forms available at www.stmaryspsok.com or the Parish Office. Not interested in playing but would like to support the cause and market your business?! Hole Sponsorships are available! \$100/sign. For more info, email Emily at Emily.hodgson@smsponcacity.org



St. Mary's Catholic School is hiring! They are looking for Pre-K 3 year old Class (M, W, F) and 2nd Grade teachers. Our School offers competitive pay and benefits, we offer a Christian environment with smaller class sizes, and we require Oklahoma Certification. For more information please call or e-mail Sarah Hunsaker, Principal at 580-765-4387,

sarah.hunsaker@smsponcacity.org.

Abuse of Minors and Vulnerable Adults Archdiocese of OKC Bulletin Announcement

The Archdiocese of Oklahoma City through its programs, organizations and events, has numerous daily contacts with many minors and vulnerable adults. It is, therefore, important that all Archdiocesan Personnel, clergy, seminarians, religious, employees and volunteers, protect the rights of children and vulnerable adults and be alert to the possibility for child abuse and abuse of vulnerable adults. Under Oklahoma State law, all individuals MUST report an incident or suspicion of sexual abuse of a minor (person under 18 years of age) to the civil authorities immediately. The Oklahoma Department of Human Services has established a statewide abuse hotline for reporting: 1-800-522-3511. This number is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you have reason to believe a child is in immediate danger of harm call 911. For the safety of children and vulnerable adults and the healing of victims, the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City provides an Abuse of Minors and Vulnerable Adults Pastoral Response Hotline for reporting the abuse of minors and vulnerable adults (in the past or presently) by a member of the clergy or other church personnel: 1-405-720-9878. The Archdiocesan Victims Assistance Coordinator, a licensed professional counselor, will respond to calls to the Archdiocesan Pastoral Response Hotline. A report to the Archdiocese does not relieve the individual of the duty to report child abuse to civil authorities as required by Oklahoma State Law. In Oklahoma, failure to report child abuse is a misdemeanor punishable by law.

Become a seminarian pen pal



Seminarians are away from home for months at a time during their formation. While at seminary, they would like to hear from people back home in Oklahoma! To become a Seminarian Pen Pal, go online to archokc.org/penpal, find their addresses and write a note.