

**ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, BALLSTON SPA,  
& ST. MARY'S MISSION, GALWAY**

**~ Fr. Francis R. Vivacqua, *Pastor* ~ Deacon Ronald Hogan**

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St. Mary's Church Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysballstonspa>



# EASTER SUNDAY

“Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified.  
He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and  
see the place where he lay.” —Mt 28:5b-6

# EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD — APRIL 12, 2020



## MASS INTENTIONS

**MONDAY – April 13, (Monday within the Octave of Easter)**

7:45 AM + Pro Populo

**TUESDAY – April 14, (Tuesday within the Octave of Easter)**

5:30 PM + Stephen & Caroline Vangura *req. by Kunz Family*  
+ Ann Draghi *req. by Hakanson & Roberts Families*

**WEDNESDAY – April 15, (Wednesday within the Octave of Easter)**

7:45 AM + BJ Jacobs *req. by Durfee Family*

**THURSDAY – April 16, (Thursday within the Octave of Easter)**

7:45 AM + James W. Reagan  
+ Tim Smith *req. by Barbara Shay*

**FRIDAY – April 17, (Friday within the Octave of Easter)**  
**NO DAILY MASS**

**SATURDAY – April 18, (Sunday of Divine Mercy)**

4:00 PM + Brooke Blake *req. by Stephenson Family*  
+ James Rizzo *req. by LaMarco Family*  
+ Richard Bell *req. by Herb & Dawn Peters*

**SUNDAY – April 19, (Sunday of Divine Mercy)**

8:30 AM + Pro Populo  
+ James C. Farley *req. by Family*  
+ Kenny Barnes *req. by Stephanie Mackie*  
10:30 AM + James W. Reagan  
+ Thomas Blaha  
*req. by Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Rielly & Family*  
12:00 PM + Mary & Allan Weissman *req. by Amy*  
+ Jonathan R. Smith *req. by Flatley Family*



### Readings for the week of April 12th

**Sunday:** We demonstrate our belief in the empty tomb by the way we live our faith. Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Ps 118/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

**Monday:** Along with the earliest Christians, we are witnesses of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16/Mt 28:8-15

**Tuesday:** Repent and be baptized, every one of you. Acts 2:36-41/Ps 33/Jn 20:11-18

**Wednesday:** It takes faith to see what our eyes cannot perceive. Acts 3:1-10/Ps 105/Lk 24:13-35

**Thursday:** Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promise. Acts 3:11-26/Ps 8/Lk 24:35-48

**Friday:** In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean, we are saved. Acts 4:1-12/Ps 118/Jn 21:1-14

**Saturday:** The risen Christ appeared to his disciples and is present among us today. Acts 4:13-21/Ps 118/Mk 16:9-15

**Next Sunday:** We are reconciled to God, in his Divine Mercy, through his Son. Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118/Jn 20:19-31

May the peace of our Resurrected Christ be with you and your loved ones during this time. This has definitely been a Lenten journey to remember. However, we are in the midst of living our Lenten journey. Christ has Risen, Alleluia, Alleluia! Even though Christ is once again living among us, it may still seem as if we can't feel his embrace or see him among our daily lives. We have been challenged this Lent to experience a journey like none before. We began this new year by entering our school gym to celebrate the Sacrifice of the Mass, together, and as the weeks went on, we were all scattered to our individual homes. Together, as a parish community we have experienced ups and downs, pain, grief, and sorrow. As your spiritual Father, I promise you, Jesus is with us! This time continues to draw my heart closer to Jesus, his teachings, ministry and passion. My heart continues to seek the guidance and love of our Blessed Mother.

Speaking of hearts. I want to thank the many volunteers who have called our senior parishioners and who are now working on contacting the rest of you in our database. I'm so grateful to all those who completed last year's census form. Many long hours were spent on updated our database and all that effort has benefited us. We have been able to be in contact with you and many have reached out to our Pastoral Associate for Parish Life, Ann McCauley, and volunteers have been committed to assisting those who have reached out to St. Mary's.

Later this week, all our registered parishioners will be receiving a letter. I encourage you to take time and read this letter, pray about its content, and continue to lean on Jesus and his Mother Mary. Our resurrection day will come. Eventually, we will walk out of the tomb, out of the darkness, and rejoice when we walk through the doors of St. Mary's once again.

I went back through pictures from last year's Holy Week, I thought they may help as you and your family continue to pray together during this time. I leave you with these words of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, "Easter means hope prevails over despair. Jesus reigns as Lord of Lords and King of Kings.....Easter says to us that despite everything to the contrary, his will for us will prevail, love will prevail over hate, justice over injustice and oppression, peace over exploitation and bitterness." May the Risen Christ bring hope to your hearts. We too will rise again to new life! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sending my love and God's blessings,  
Father Francis R. Vivacqua

### PARISH STAFF

#### Pastor

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#### Deacon

Ronald Hogan

#### Pastoral Associate for Administration

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Palm Sunday



Pieta and Palms



Pieta Altar of Repose



Holy Thursday



Jesus Good Friday



Good Friday Cross



Easter Sunday




## Collections & OnLine Giving

Thank you for the many people who have signed up for OnLine Giving or mailed in their envelopes. We are so grateful to have such a generous family of parishioners who are willing to adapt to the times and continue to support St. Mary's.

Our reality is that without Masses, there are no collections. It is important to remember the first part of being charitable is through the power of prayer. Our collections go toward the parish's operating expenses. If you haven't had the opportunity to enroll in our OnLine Giving program, please check out our website. If you need assistance, please email Ann McCauley. As always, thank you for your prayers and generosity.



We thank you for your sacrificial offering of:	
	<b>Apr. 5</b>
	Envelopes & Loose \$ 8,710
	On-line Giving 3,095
	<b>Total \$11,805</b>
To cover our weekly expenses, we need \$11,500.	

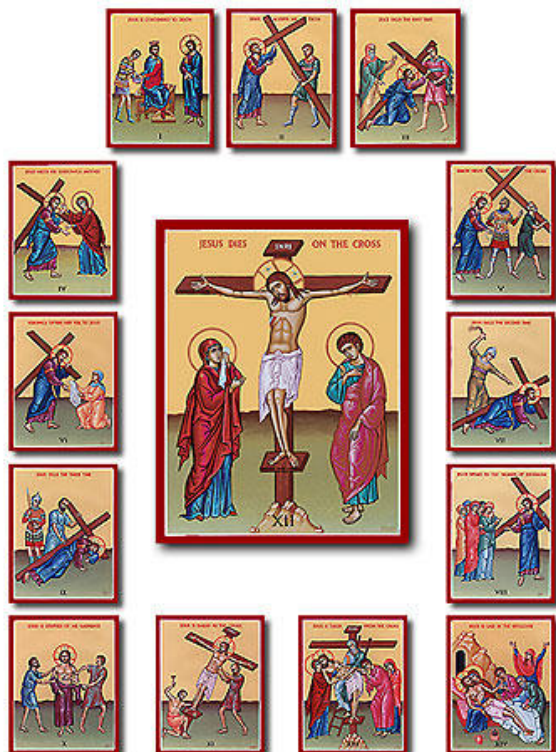
Pope Francis composed a prayer to the Virgin Mary for protection of the world during the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic.

*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, Salvation of the  
Roman People,  
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 we who are in trial, but deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Pray the Stations of the Cross

- 1. Jesus Is Condemned to Death.**  
Pontius Pilate condemns Jesus to death.
  - 2. Jesus Takes Up His Cross.**  
Jesus willingly accepts and patiently bears his cross.
  - 3. Jesus Falls the First Time.**  
Weakened by torments and by loss of blood, Jesus falls beneath his cross.
  - 4. Jesus Meets His Sorrowful Mother.**  
Jesus meets his mother, Mary, who is filled with grief.
  - 5. Simon of Cyrene Helps Jesus Carry the Cross.**  
Soldiers force Simon of Cyrene to carry the cross.
  - 6. Veronica Wipes the Face of Jesus.**  
Veronica steps through the crowd to wipe the face of Jesus.
  - 7. Jesus Falls a Second Time.**  
Jesus falls beneath the weight of the cross a second time.
  - 8. Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem.**  
Jesus tells the women to weep not for him but for themselves and for their children.
  - 9. Jesus Falls the Third Time.**  
Weakened almost to the point of death, Jesus falls a third time.
  - 10. Jesus Is Stripped of His Garments.**  
The soldiers strip Jesus of his garments, treating him as a common criminal.
  - 11. Jesus Is Nailed to the Cross.**  
Jesus' hands and feet are nailed to the cross.
  - 12. Jesus Dies on the Cross.**  
After suffering greatly on the cross, Jesus bows his head and dies.
  - 13. Jesus Is Taken Down From the Cross.**  
The lifeless body of Jesus is tenderly placed in the arms of Mary, his mother.
  - 14. Jesus Is Laid in the Tomb.**  
Jesus' disciples place his body in the tomb.
- The closing prayer – Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be.



## Seal the Doorposts with the Divine Mercy

In this time of calamity, the Marian Fathers invite you to participate in a simple but incredibly powerful act of faith. To protect you and your family, we urge you to post an Image of the Divine Mercy on your front doors.

Father Chris Alar, MIC, explains why: You can clip the image from the bulletin, or print a larger version by visiting [TheDivineMercy.org/DivineMercyImage](http://TheDivineMercy.org/DivineMercyImage). If your image hasn't been blessed by a priest, the Church allows you to invoke a blessing yourself. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* (1669) teaches that lay people, on account of their baptismal priesthood, may administer certain blessings.

How can you invoke such a blessing upon the Image of Divine Mercy? While making the Sign of the Cross over the Image, say: *Oh, Lord, I seek your blessing upon this image, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.* Why is this Image so important?

The Image represents the Lord, the Lamb sacrificed for us, from whose Heart flows Blood and Water, the streams of God's mercy upon the whole world. The Lord promises us through St. Faustina "that the soul that will venerate [honor] this image will not perish" (*Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska*, 48). He also promises: "victory over [our] enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death" and to "defend [us] as [His] own glory" (*Diary*, 48). The Lord said, "By means of this Image I shall be granting many graces to souls; so, let every soul have access to it" (*Diary*, 570).

Saint Faustina's confessor, Blessed Michael Sopocko, recalled additional promises our Lord made through St. Faustina regarding the Image: When chastisements for sins come upon the world and your own country will experience utter degradation, the only refuge will be trust in My mercy. I will protect the cities and homes in which The Divine Mercy Image is found; I will protect the persons who will venerate [honor] this Image. The only refuge will be trust in My Mercy.

Father Sopocko recalled that Jesus also said: Let everyone procure for their homes this Image because there will yet come trials. And those homes, and entire families, and everyone individually who will hold this image of mercy in deep reverence, I will preserve from every sort of misfortune. The time will come when all those who do so will give witness to the miraculous efficacy and to the special protection of mercy flowing from this Image.

What does this mean for us today? Recently, as the repercussions of the coronavirus became crystal clear, we prayed at Mass, "Let us seal the doorposts of our inner thoughts with the protective Word of God ..." This is a reference to Exodus 12, where God commanded the Israelites to "seal the doorposts" with the blood of the lamb so that the angel of death may pass over those houses that have been marked.

Jesus is the sacrificial Lamb of God. By offering Himself as atonement for our sins and those of the whole world, by the outpouring of His Blood and Water, He freed us from eternal death and sealed us for eternal life.

So please, I urge you to put the Image of the Divine Mercy with the inscription "Jesus, I trust in You" upon your doors, as many have done in times of calamity.

Remember, it is Jesus whom we worship in this Image. Also, while this act of faith may not guarantee your family won't be physically affected by the virus, it will guarantee that, by your trust in Jesus, you will obtain His promises of love and mercy, which will surround you and remain in you forever.

***Jesus, I trust in you!***



# St. Mary's School Ballston Spa

*A Small School With A Big Heart!*



**Faith \* Academics \* Community**

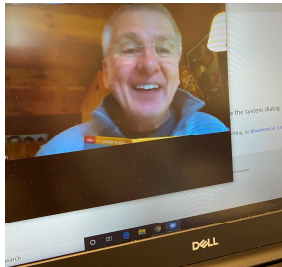
Quality Catholic Education serving  
Nursery, Pre-K, Full Day Kindergarten  
through Grade 5!

## REMOTE LEARNING:

During the darkest and hardest times, is when we often see the light. These certainly are difficult times, but if we look close enough we can find light, hope and God's grace all around us.

St. Mary's teachers and staff have stepped up to the challenges of providing instruction and helping our children learn from afar. We are so grateful to parents, grandparents and caregivers for partnering with us in this endeavor!

While we terribly miss being together, so many great things are happening and our school family remains strong! Here is just a sampling:



Mr. Walsh has been reading stories to classes via video conferencing.

Third Graders presented their "Pizza Fractions" project online!



St. Mary's teachers spent a professional development day planning for remote learning, collaborating and sharing resources.



Pre-K children are learning in fun ways!



*"Though your beginning was small, your future will flourish indeed." Job 8:7*

Have you discerned offering your child a Catholic Education? Pray about it!

*Enrolling now for 2020-2021 school year!*

**St. Mary's offers Tuition assistance, Diocesan grants and Guardian Angel Scholarships.**

**Call for a personal tour or stop by for more information!**

518-885-7300 office@smsbspa.org  
or visit www.smsbspa.org

Principal: Mrs. Lynn Fitzgerald

***Our Mission: St. Mary's School provides a quality Catholic elementary education (Pre-school through Grade 5) guided by the Gospel's spirit of love within an atmosphere of academic excellence that nurtures the growth in holiness and wholeness for each child.***