MARCH 29, 2020 | FIFTHSUNDAY OF LENT

GOOD SHEPHERD

MASS SCHEDULE: SUNDAY 8:00 AM

SACRED HEART

MASS SCHEDULE: SUNDAY 11:00 AM TUESDAY & THURSDAY 7:00 AM WEDNESDAY 9:00 AM

MADONNA DEL CASTELLO

MASS SCHEDULE: SATURDAY VIGIL 5:30 PM TUESDAY 9:00 AM

ST. COLMAN

MASS SCHEDULE:
SATURDAY VIGIL 5:30 PM
SUNDAY 10:00 AM & 5:30 PM
MONDAY & TUESDAY 8:00 AM
CONFESSION TIME:
SATURDAY 12:00 NOON - 1:00 PM

ST. JOHN FISHER

MASS SCHEDULE:
SATURDAY VIGIL 4:00 PM
SUNDAY 11:30 AM
WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 8:00 AM
CONFESSION TIME:
WEDNESDAY AFTER 8:00 AM MASS

ST. JUDE THE APOSTLE

MASS SCHEDULE: SUNDAY 9:00 AM FRIDAY 8:00 AM

ST. MAURICE

MASS SCHEDULE: SATURDAY VIGIL 4:00 PM SUNDAY 10:00 AM MONDAY 7:00 PM FRIDAY 9:00 AM

CONFESSION TIME:
MONDAY AFTER 7:00 PM MASS

WORD OF GOD

MASS SCHEDULE: SUNDAY 9:00 AM THURSDAY 9:00 AM

CONFESSION TIME: SATURDAY 12:00 NOON



STAFF

Father Frank D. Almade *Administrator*

Father Martin F. Barkin Senior Parochial Vicar

Father Jeremy J. Mohler Parochial Vicar

Father Albert J. Semler Parochial Vicar

Deacon Joseph M. Dougherty

Deacon Keith G. Kondrich

Deacon Herb Riley

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412-271-0809

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GOOD SHEPHERD

Braddock Avenue at Frazier Street, Braddock, PA 15104 P: 412-271-1515| F: 412-271-1222 | email: gshepoffice@comcast.net

1600 Brinton Road, Braddock Hills, PA 15221-4902 P: 412-271-1515| F: 412-271-1222 | email: gshepoffice@comcast.net

MADONNA DEL CASTELLO 2021 South Braddock Avenue, Swissvale, PA 15218 P: 412-271-5666 | F: 412-271-2335 | email: madonnadelcastello1920@gmail.com

ST. COLMAN

100 Tri-Boro Avenue, Turtle Creek, PA 15145-1966 P: 412-823-2564 | F: 412-823-6350 |

ST. JOHN FISHER

33 Lewin Lane, Churchill, PA 15235 P: 412-241-4722 | F: 412-241-4653 | email: st_john_fisher@comcast.net

ST. JUDE THE APOSTLE

LE

405 Westinghouse Avenue, Wilmerding, PA 15148 P: 412-823-8390 | F: 412-823-8399 | email: stjudetheapostle@verizon.net

ST. MAURICE

2001 Ardmore Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15221 P: 412-271-0809 | F: 412-271-2415 | email: jkosar@saintmauriceparish.org

WORD OF GOD

7446 McClure Avenue, Swissvale, PA 15218
P: 412-241-1372 | F: 412-271-2335 |
email: wordofgod1994@gmail.com

Safe Environment...It is the policy of the Diocese that all volunteers must complete the Safe Environment process before beginning a ministry or activity in any Parish. Please call 412-271-0809 for more information..

Diocese of Pittsburgh Crisis Hotline:

1-888-808-1235

Diocesan Victim Assistance

Coordinator: 412-456-3093 (Office) **PA Child Line:** 1-800-932-0313

New Parishioners are most welcome!
Please call the office of the church you would like to join.
We will be happy to assist you!

Faithful Chronicles By Father Frank D. Almade



Random scenes from the Coronavirus epidemic and public response among the "Eight Great Churches of the East":

- † Each day the priests and deacons (who do not have a funeral Mass or blessing service) gather to celebrate Mass together privately. We pray in the empty church for you, all our parishioners, our neighbors and fellow citizens, the nurses and doctors who are ministering to victims, and public officials worldwide. It is a simple Mass without music or fanfare, but our hearts and our prayers dearly go out to you.
- † The office at St. Maurice Parish Center remains open (as of this writing, Tuesday morning the 24th). We are practicing social distancing, wiping down all surfaces, and staff are taking care of each other. With so few events going on in the parishes and community, it is quiet. You can stop in to drop off your envelope or Parish Share donation, if you are able. You can also mail your envelope to any of the parish offices, which continue to receive mail, or call with any questions.
- † On Sunday, March 22, Father Martin Barkin, Deacon Herb Riley and I celebrated Mass in an empty St. John Fisher Church. It was definitely weird to celebrate the Fourth Sunday in Lent in a building where we are ordered to lock the doors and keep people out. In my youth I thought this only happened in authoritarian countries, or where Christians were hiding from government officials. But we are trying to be obedient to public officials and health authorities in the "stay-at-home" order.
- † All public diocesan meetings have been canceled, as you might expect. These included previously scheduled vicariate meetings with the priests and deacons, as well as public meetings for diocesan officials and the bishop to explain the finances of the diocese and parishes. Last week the Bishop hosted a telephone conference call, to go over several matters related to the crisis. Over 125 priests and deacons participated. It is again one of those unheard of things, that the only way Bishop Zubik can communicate with his clergy and faithful is through a telephone conference call and a daily email—nothing in person.
- Two weeks ago I had a doctor's appointment in downtown Pittsburgh. It was scheduled for 9:00 am. I left St. John Fisher rectory at 8:00 am. On a usual business day, it would take me 45-55 minutes to creep along the Parkway East toward town in stop-and-go traffic. This day I got on the Parkway, and never touched the brake, sailing through the Squirrel Hill Tunnel at 55 mph. It took only 14 minutes to arrive. Downtown Pittsburgh was a ghost town. The buses moved on their routes, but very few people were walking on the sidewalks and very few cars on the streets. It's a sign that people and businesses are taking seriously the "shelter in place" order to prevent the spread of the deadly virus.
- † Who knew that touching elbows would become a major way of saying "hello!"?

- the vears. In the spring we usually get together to do the Friday Lenten Fish Fry tour, visiting different parish halls and restaurants. On Friday, March 6, we met at St. Maurice's Keane Hall to enjoy the great food. Such a crowd! But in a sign of how fast things change, the next week we could not go out to any parish hall, so we ordered take-out from a nearby parish and met at one of our member's home in the South Hills. Last Friday we could not even do that, as all parish Fish Fry sites closed. So we had a "virtual Fish Fry gathering" by way of a telephone conference call from our respective residences. It was a nice way of touching base with everyone, and hearing the different ways we are dealing with the shut-down orders and the crisis. As the tv commercials tell us, we are all in this together.
- † With lots of time on your hands, I encourage you to reach out to family and friends by telephone. Even a short conversation can bring joy to someone who only sees four walls. There are also many resources, spiritual and practical, available on line. In a few days I hope to send out a US mailing to all parishioners, with some guidance as to how to deal with this crisis, and how we can practice our Catholic Christian faith in ways we never thought of before.
- † One of the kindest ways of parishioners and clergy ministers is to visit hospitals, nursing homes and personal care homes. Because of the crisis these have been closed off to all visitors. We honor the need for closure, while at the same time pray for parishioners (and their caregivers) who are in these facilities.
- † Many parishioners have said to me, either by phone or email, that they miss attending Mass (either on Sunday or our wonderful daily Mass-goers) and miss receiving Holy Communion, I recommend reflecting on the concept of "spiritual communion." We are all part of the Body of Christ, and connected through our faith in Jesus Christ. Some members of the Body cannot attend Mass for various reasons not their fault (in the military on a faraway base or ship at sea; while traveling in a foreign country; in prison; because of their marital status, etc.). They can pray daily and know that they are part of the Body of Christ, the Church, even if physically they cannot receive Holy Communion. Jesus never abandons any of his followers.
- † I can appreciate the feeling of missing Holy Communion through my personal experience of being sick. As I have mentioned, two years ago I had a blood infection, and had to have open heart surgery for aortic valve replacement. Things went badly in the operating room. A routine 90-minute surgery turned into seven hours, and I ended up in the ICU for nine days, breathing through a ventilator. Blessedly I recovered. But because of the ventilator's effects on my throat, I flunked the swallowing test. For seven weeks I was not permitted anything by mouth, including Holy Communion. After much therapy, I passed a swallow test, and was able to eat in the normal way. From that experience I have new and profound appreciation of the simple act of swallowing, and of the privilege of receiving Holy Communion. Let us pray for one another during this time of national and international crisis.

All Masses and Stations **CANCELED**

2 Churches will be open:

<u>Madonna</u> <u>St. Maurice</u>

Mon. & Tues. 8 am-4 pm 9 am-5 pm

Wednesdays closed 9 am-5 pm

Thurs. & Fri. 8 am-4 pm 9 am-5 pm

Adoration:

Tuesdays 7 pm-8 pm Madonna

Thursdays 8 am-9 am St. Colman

Saturdays Noon-1pm St. Maurice

Confessions:

Saturdays Noon-1 pm, Word of God & St. Colman

Parish Office open:

Monday—Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm St. Maurice

Food Pantry Donations: St. Maurice Office



111 Boulevard of the Allies Pittsburgh, PA15222

E-mail: communications@diopitt.org www.diopitt.org

Contact: Ellen Mady

(c) 412-456-3129 (c) 412-961-4888

For Release: March 19, 2020

Bishop David Zubik Issues New Directives Regarding Confession, General Absolution, and Lenten Friday Obligation

In continuing response to coronavirus (COVID-19) concerns, and with a heart to preserve the Mission of the Catholic Church, Bishop David Zubik announced the following directives for the Diocese of Pittsburgh today. All directives are effective immediately and until further notice.

Priests are Permitted to Offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation in Church Parking Lots

Priest are permitted to hear confessions in church parking lots, following specific guidelines to preserve the sanctity of the sacrament. The guidelines for priests include directions for a set up that allows for anonymity and privacy. "Our faithful need reassurance of God's mercy now more than ever," Bishop Zubik said. Bishop Zubik is also asking that members of the media respect the sacred nature of the sacrament, and the confidentiality of the penitents, and not appear at any parish sites.

General Absolution

Today, Cardinal Mauro Piacenza, Prefect of the Apostolic Penitentiary, issued a note regarding the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the current pandemic of COVID-19. He addressed the possible need for general absolution. He noted that general absolution without prior individual confession cannot be imparted except where there is an imminent danger of death because there is not enough time to hear confessions of individual penitents.

He then went on to write: "This Apostolic Penitentiary believes that, especially in the places most affected by the pandemic contagion and until the phenomenon recedes, the cases of serious need mentioned in can. 961, § 2 CIC above mentioned, will occur."

This means that the Apostolic Penitentiary recognizes the need in some places for the use of general or collective absolution. However, it is for the diocesan bishop to determine if and when the grave necessity exists for the use of general absolution.

Bishop Zubik believes that this necessity does exist in some places in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. "Therefore, in hospitals, nursing homes and other healthcare facilities, where a priest is not allowed to personally interact with patients or staff due to COVID-19 restrictions, he may grant general absolution. The faithful are to know that he is offering absolution and his voice should be able to be heard by those receiving absolution, this could

be over a PA system or by some other means. If a priest imparts general absolution, he is to inform penitents of the need to confess serious sins at the earliest possible moment," Bishop Zubik said.

Anointing of the Sick in Care Facilities

Diocese of Pittsburgh Priests have expressed concerns about restrictions being placed on them being able to celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick in nursing homes and hospitals. Today, Bishop Zubik contacted the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference and asked that they intervene with the Governor, requesting an exemption to clergy from the current ban.

Obligation to Abstain from Meat on Lenten Fridays with the Exception of Good Friday

Bishop Zubik is dispensing from the obligation to abstain from meat on Lenten Fridays with the exception of Good Friday. "As you are aware, many of the shelves and cases in our supermarkets are sparse if not empty. This is a time when pastoral necessity has informed my decision effective today," the Bishop said.



111 Boulevard of the Allies Pittsburgh, PA 15222

E-mail: communications@diopitt.org www.diopitt.org

Contact:

Ellen Mady (o) 412-456-3129

(c) 412-961-4888

For Release: March 20, 2020

Bishop David Zubik Releases Pastoral Letter: "The Other Side of Corona"; Announces Details of Day of Fasting and Day of Prayer

Bishop David Zubik has released his Pastoral Letter: "The Other Side of Corona" in response to fears, worries, and anxieties surrounding the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

In his letter, the Bishop invites people to reflect on a hope-filled definition of the word "corona". For Catholics, the word corona traditionally means the crown of Mary, Mother of Jesus. "Corona is a sign that God is with us through everything we experience in life, wherever we are, whatever we do, whoever we are! We are never alone," Bishop Zubik said.

The Bishop also calls people to think of this time as an opportunity to pray most fervently. "A time of dramatic action that affects our daily lives—closure of business, working from home, cancellation of school, a suspension of most Church activities, particularly the celebration of public Masses—and even a self-quarantine or the loss of employment—is an opportunity to deepen our relationship with Jesus," he said.

"The Other Side of Corona" highlights examples of prayers that focus on asking God for support and healing, including that "God may protect us from a spread of the virus. That God may extend His love and care for others through us, and that God may comfort all of us whose lives are disrupted in the path of the virus."

In the letter, Bishop Zubik refers to having to make an announcement on March 15, 2020, that "broke his heart"; suspending public Mass in the Diocese of Pittsburgh until further notice in an effort to follow health guidelines and protect people from the spread of COVID-19. "As painful as it is to be deprived of the Mass, we are followers of the Great Physician who would never want us to risk making others seriously ill," the Bishop said.

A variety of alternative ways to pray, worship, and live the Catholic faith are also included in the Pastoral Letter. It can be downloaded at the Diocese of Pittsburgh website (https://diopitt.org/the-other-side-of-corona).

Special Days of Fasting and Prayer in the Diocese of Pittsburgh

Tuesday, March 24, 2020: Day of Fasting

Bishop Zubik has announced a Day of Fasting for protection against the coronavirus and for all who are suffering in its wake.

Wednesday, March 25, 2020, The Feast of the Annunciation: Day of Prayer

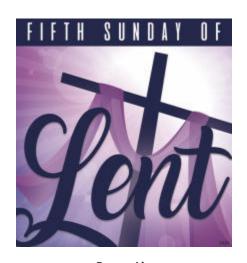
A number of suggestions and resources for that day are listed on the diocesan website (https://diopitt.org/day-of-fasting-and-prayer).

"I chose this particular day because it is on that day that we remember the Archangel Gabriel's revelation to the Virgin Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus. That announcement brought great disruption, hardship and fear into the life of Mary—and Joseph too. Yet they responded with a faith that led to our salvation. Being able to identify with their disruption, hardship and fear, my hope is that we can all imitate their response with faith too!" Bishop Zubik said.



GOOD SHEPHERD			
Offertory \$272.00			
MADONNA DEL CASTELLO			
Offertory	\$290.00		
ST. COLMAN			
Offertory	\$3,266.00		
ST. JOHN FISHER			
Offertory	\$4,028.91		
ST. JUDE THE APOSTLE			
Offertory	\$665.00		
ST. MAURICE			
Offertory	\$4,831.00		
WORD OF GOD			
Offertory	\$1,438.00		

Thank you for your continued generosity!



Prayer Line
St. Maurice—412-277-0693 or
412-871-3245
Madonna & Word of God—412-804-8858

BULLETIN DEADLINE
All bulletin articles must be submitted
in writing or by email to
stjudetheapostle@verizon.net
by 10:00 am on Friday.

MASSES

A. ON TV:

- 1. St. Mary of Mercy: live every day at Noon, Comcast channel 95, Christian Associates TV.
- 2. St. Paul Cathedral: live Monday through Saturday, 8:15 am and Sundays at 10 am. Comcast channel 95. Rebroadcast at 5 and 8 pm daily.
- 3. From WPXI-TV: Sundays at 6 am on PCNC and MeTV on Verizon; over the air on MeTV.
- 4. WPGH-TV Fox 53, 7 am, Sundays.

B. Online:

- 1. Links through diopitt.org/spiritual-resources
- 2. St. Paul Cathedral & St. Mary of Mercy: christianassociatestv.org



HOLY HOUR EXPOSITION AT ST. COLMAN

There will be a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday, March 31 from 6:30—7:30 p.m. This is an opportunity to worship in a prayerful, reflective manner in the special presence of the Eucharist. Consider spending some quality time in prayerful, spiritual reading or just meditating on God's love and continuing presence in your life.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO ISSUE A WEEKLY BULLETIN. Copies will be available at Madonna del Castello and St. Maurice churches during visitation; Word of God Church during confessions and St. Colman church during Adoration and confessions.

In light of Bishop Zubik lifting the obligation for attending Sunday Mass during this unprecedented time, we want to do everything we can to bring the Eucharist to those of our parishioners who choose to stay home. If you would like a visit, please call the St. Maurice Parish Office at 412-271-0809 and leave a message for Deacon Herb Riley with your name, phone number and address.

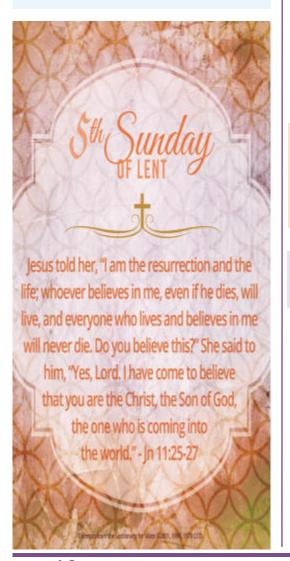
St. Jude the Apostle parishioners remember Dolores "Dolly" Skavronski this week on the fifth year anniversary of her death, March 23rd. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS
Phyllis Abt, Peter Catone, Loretta
Coconcelli, Joanne Dawes, Gloria
Malerbo and Rita Scanio who recently
passed to the Lord. May their souls
rest in peace. Amen.

BIBLE STUDY 216

Thursday evenings, 7—8:15 pm Bible study meets at St. John Fisher. All are invited to join in our current study of Acts of Apostles, The Church on Mission, after Pentecost. Bibles are available in the Rectory meeting room.



STAY UP TO DATE ON THE LATEST NEWS! CHECK OUT OUR GROUPING'S WEBSITES:

catholicwestinghousevalley.org madonnadelcastello.org stmauriceparish.org

MEMORIAL DONATION

Word of God: In memory of **Clara Jean Molyneaux** from James & Melinda Edwards

MEMORIAL FUND

St. Maurice: In memory of Robert Pekor from Emillie Arbutina

MEMORIAL OFFERINGS—TABERNACLE LAMPS

St. Maurice: March 22—In memory of *William J. DiMola* from Margaret R. DiMola

March 29—In memory of *Frances Pleskovitch* by Dottie Hudak

PARISH PICNIC

We have rescheduled our picnic for **Sunday, September 27**. Once everything settles, we will schedule a meeting to plan for this event. For now, **"SAVE THE DATE"**...Thanks, Fr. Al

LENTEN SACRIFICES—PLEASE HOLD ON TO YOUR RICE BOWLS. WE PLAN TO COLLECT THEM ONCE THINGS ARE BACK TO NORMAL...THANKS FR AL

Pre Cana 2020—The Marriage Preparation classes for our grouping, also known as Pre-Cana, will take place on Saturday, May 16, 2020 at the St. Maurice Parish Center beginning at 9 am and will conclude following the 4 pm Mass that evening. Our Pre Cana classes, which fulfills the Diocese of Pittsburgh's guidelines for being married in the Catholic Church, will include talks from our clergy team and qualified couples on having a Sacramental Marriage, Finance, Parenting and Communication. The interactive day is run by our successful team and we welcome couples from our parishes and neighboring parishes to attend. Registration is required and is \$60 per couple. Please contact the St. Maurice Parish Office at 412-271-0809 to register. Thanks!

Sacraments:

Baptism

Prior to having your child baptized, both parents must attend a pre-baptismal seminar. Please contact St. Maurice at 412-271-0809 to register.

Penance

Please refer to page 7 for the locations and times.

Marriage

By appointment. Anyone who wishes to marry should contact the pastor at least six months prior to the desired date.

Anointing of the Sick

Available for those who are chronically ill. Please contact the parish in which the person is a member.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

This is the process to become Catholic or for Catholics to receive the rest of their Sacraments of Initiation. Please call (412) 271-0809 for more information.

Holy Communion for Shut-Ins

Please contact the parish in which the person is a member.

A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN TIME OF PANDEMIC



The ancient freeco of Madorins del Soccoso (Our Lady of Help) in St. Peter's Basilica was restored with the support of the Knights of Columbus to mark the Year of Faith (2012-2013), Photo courtesy of Fabbrica of San Pietro M. Fabioni.

O Mary, you always brighten 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 while remaining steadfast in faith. O loving Mother, you know what we need, and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee. Intercede for us with your Son Jesus, the Divine Physician, for those who have fallen ill, for those who are vulnerable. and for those who have died. Intercede also for those charged with protecting the health and safety of others and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure. Help us, O Mother of Divine Love, to conform to the will of the Father and to do as we are told by Jesus, who took upon himself our sufferings and carried our sorrows,

Under thy protection we seek refuge, O Holy Mother of God. In our needs, despise not our petitions, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

so as to lead us, through the Cross,

to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thoughts to Reflect On and Share:

"When all of our faith and trust is placed in the Lord, our mortal deaths are not something that we fear, because we know that like Jesus, we will be raised to that place where death will be no more and pain and suffering will cease to exist.

A place of peace and love, in the eternal presence of our God who keeps all of His promises to us." You can Follow Deacon Herb on Facebook.

CDA SPRING FLOWER SALE



These BIG, BEAUTIFUL baskets will be coming from Hazuza's Greenhouse. Cost is \$20 each. Contact any CDA member: Donna Egan 412-999-4685 or donname240@gmail.com. Orders are due by April 15 and delivery will be May 2.

FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Swissvale Cares, along with the Greater Swissvale Community Food Pantry continues the special distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables to those who want some. All food is distributed from the 2028 Noble Street location. If you feel you are in need, please plan to come and get your distribution. They are the last Tuesday of each month from 10 am to 11:30 am and continue until October. We are in need of volunteers to help sort, package and distribute the food. Volunteers are needed from 9 am to 11:30 AM on this day. Please contact Dario Donatelli if you have any questions. Email dariodonatelli59@gmail.com or phone 412-956-9942.

The Chaplet of The Divine Mercy

Optional Opening Prayers:

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

(Repeat 3 times) O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!

Our Father, Hail Mary and the Apostle's Creed

For each of the five decades (On each "Our Father" bead of the rosary, pray)

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

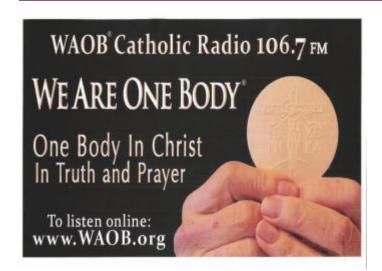
(On each of the 10 "Hail Mary" beads, pray) For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Concluding prayer (Repeat 3 times)

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Optional Closing Prayer

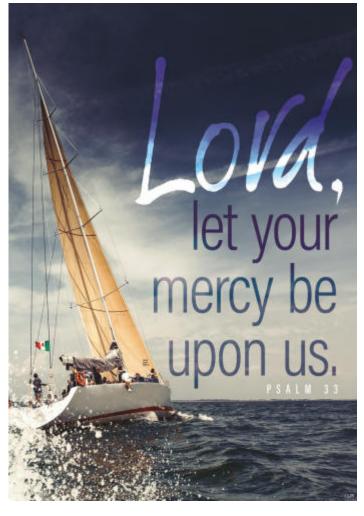
Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.



Parish Assembly Power Point Presentations are on the following websites for our grouping:

> madonnadelcastello.org catholicwestinghousevalley.org stmauriceparish.org

Consult these sites for the parish bulletin and notices.



MEMORIAL OFFERING				
Good Shepherd	St. Colman	St. Maurice	Word of God	
Madonna del Castello	St. John Fisher	St. Jude the Apostle		
Offerings for the Tabernacle Lamp can be made in honor/memory of your loved one(s) for a week. Please fill out the form and put it in the collection basket, drop it off at the parish office or send it through the mail. You may request a particular week. Dates requested will be scheduled on a first come/first served basis. We will contact you to confirm the week.				
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From:				
Week:				
Phone:		E-Mail:		

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