

GOOD SHEPHERD

SACRED HEART

**MADONNA DEL
CASTELLO**

ST. COLMAN

ST. JOHN FISHER

**ST. JUDE THE
APOSTLE**

ST. MAURICE

WORD OF GOD



PALM SUNDAY

And when he entered Jerusalem the whole city was shaken and asked, "Who is this?" And the crowds replied, "This is Jesus the prophet, from Nazareth in Galilee." —Mt 21:10-11

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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. Almada



On March 27 I read a news story about the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. For the first time since the Black Plague in 1349, the huge doors of the church were closed and locked.

Over the centuries millions of faithful pilgrims have passed through that doorway, to pray at Golgatha, where Jesus died, and his tomb, from which he rose from the dead on Easter Sunday. I have been privileged to walk over that threshold to pray and celebrate Mass in that church several times on my three pilgrimages to the Holy Land. And now the doors are shut, probably for months, certainly for Holy Week.

This is but one example of the extraordinary times in which we live, because of the spread of the coronavirus and its deadly effects on humanity. In past years in this column I would give a brief review of the beautiful liturgies of Holy Week: Palm Sunday and the Great Three Days of Easter—Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Vigil and Easter Sunday. But not this year. For your health and well-being I too have to close and lock the doors of our churches. Like Christians hiding in the catacombs, like the faithful who pray in prisons and jails and concentration camps, you will have to gather with your family members and pray at home, in spiritual communion with us clergy who will celebrate the sacred liturgies in empty churches.

I urge you to watch the live-streaming of these liturgies, whether from one of our churches, or from St. Paul Cathedral in Pittsburgh, another fine church in our country, or from St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. Please refer to the list of on-line resources which I sent to all households in our grouping

last week. Up-to-date links are also available on our parish websites. Use Holy Week to read the Passion of Christ from the Gospel of Matthew (for Palm Sunday) or from the Gospel of John (for Good Friday). Reflect on the supreme gift of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, given to us at the Last Supper. Consider spending time thinking about Christ's death, your death, and the deaths (past and future) of dear loved ones. Share the puzzlement and hope of the women of Jerusalem who met the angel at the tomb of Jesus, announcing his Resurrection on that first Easter Sunday morning. Rejoice with Peter and the apostles as they met the Risen Lord on the shores of the Sea of Galilee.

These are days of testing our Christian faith. Can we be creative in thinking of ways of washing each other's feet with love (by observing all the demands of social distancing; by staying connected by calling family members or long-lost friends; by praying for the sick and those who care for them). Can we be faithful in daily prayers and during Holy Week? Can we remain in spiritual communion with all those who can't physically receive the Body and Blood of Christ? Can we promise to never again take for granted the gifts of Sunday Mass, the sacraments, the catechumens and candidates for Easter sacraments of initiation, or the supportive presence of your sisters and brothers in the Catholic Church?

This will be a Holy Week we will long remember. It can also be a Holy Week in which each of us can grow in grace, in love and in closeness to Jesus, the Crucified Savior and the Risen One.



For Release: March 28, 2020

**CLERGY TEAMS IN THE DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH SELF-QUARANTINE
AFTER EXPOSURE TO CORONAVIRUS, NEW DIRECTIVES ISSUED**

Two clergy teams are in self-quarantine and two priests in the Diocese of Pittsburgh are in isolation after exposure to someone in the faith community who tested positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19) on March 27. Father Adam Potter, who is the Parochial Vicar of the Greenfield, Hazelwood, Oakland grouping, as well as the chaplain for Oakland Catholic High School in Oakland; and Father Thomas Gramc, Parochial Vicar of Dormont, Mount Lebanon, Scott Township grouping, as well as chaplain at Seton La Salle High School have shown mild symptoms. Both are being tested. Information is being shared with those who may have had contact with the priests. Both High Schools have been closed since March 13. Neither priest has had any contact with students or faculty since then.

The entire clergy teams at the parish groupings of (Saint Paul Cathedral-Oakland, St. Regis-Oakland, St. Rosalia-Greenfield, St. Stephen-Hazelwood) and (Saint Bernard in Mount Lebanon, Our Lady of Grace-Scott Township) have begun their 14-day voluntary quarantine today, March 28, 2020. Out of an abundance of caution and concern that these situations could be replicated in other parishes and parish groupings, Bishop David Zubik has issued the following modifications to the Diocese of Pittsburgh's coronavirus response policies:

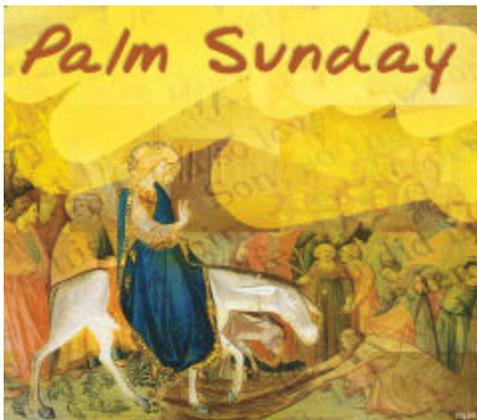
- While livestream celebrations of Masses from each of those affected parish groupings will cease effective immediately and until further notice, livestream Masses and worship services from the diocese and other parishes will continue.
- All opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation in churches or church parking lots are immediately suspended **at all parishes in the Diocese of Pittsburgh.**
- **All church buildings in the Diocese of Pittsburgh are to be locked until further notice, due to the fact that we are told that the virus can live on surfaces for an extended period of time.**
- **All Funeral Masses or services in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, inclusive of those at funeral homes, are immediately cancelled until further notice.** Direct burials of the deceased should be celebrated with memorial Masses to occur at a later time.
- All Baptism ceremonies in the Diocese of Pittsburgh are suspended immediately and until further notice. In cases of emergency (in danger of death), people should contact their priest for guidance.
- **All Wedding ceremonies in the Diocese of Pittsburgh are suspended immediately and until further notice.** Parishes will be working directly with all couples who have scheduled weddings.
- The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick may occur only in the case of immediate danger of death.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH SUPPORT

GOOD SHEPHERD	
Offertory	\$1,686.00
MADONNA DEL CASTELLO	
Offertory	\$1,310.00
ST. COLMAN	
Offertory	\$1,320.00
ST. JOHN FISHER	
Offertory	\$3,025.00
ST. JUDE THE APOSTLE	
Offertory	\$395.00
ST. MAURICE	
Offertory	\$6,371.00
WORD OF GOD	
Offertory	\$5,300.00

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.

SCHEDULE OF LITURGIES FOR HOLY WEEK 2020

During Holy Week there will be no public celebration of liturgies. All churches will be closed during scheduled liturgies. Here is the schedule for live-streamed liturgies of our grouping:

- **Palm Sunday, April 5—10 am**
- **Holy Thursday, April 9—7 pm**
- **Good Friday, April 10, Stations of the Cross—12 Noon**
- **Good Friday, April 10, Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ—1:00 pm**
- **The Great Easter Vigil, April 11—8:30 pm**
- **Easter Sunday, April 12—10 am**

You can find the link to these live-streamed liturgies at our websites: for best audio go to: youtube.com/jonzellhart

Live streaming also at: www.stmauriceparish.org ;

www.catholicwestinghousevalley.org ; www.madonnadelcastello.org

Parishioners are encouraged to watch live-streamed liturgies from our churches, or from other churches. See the listing at www.diopitt.org .

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.

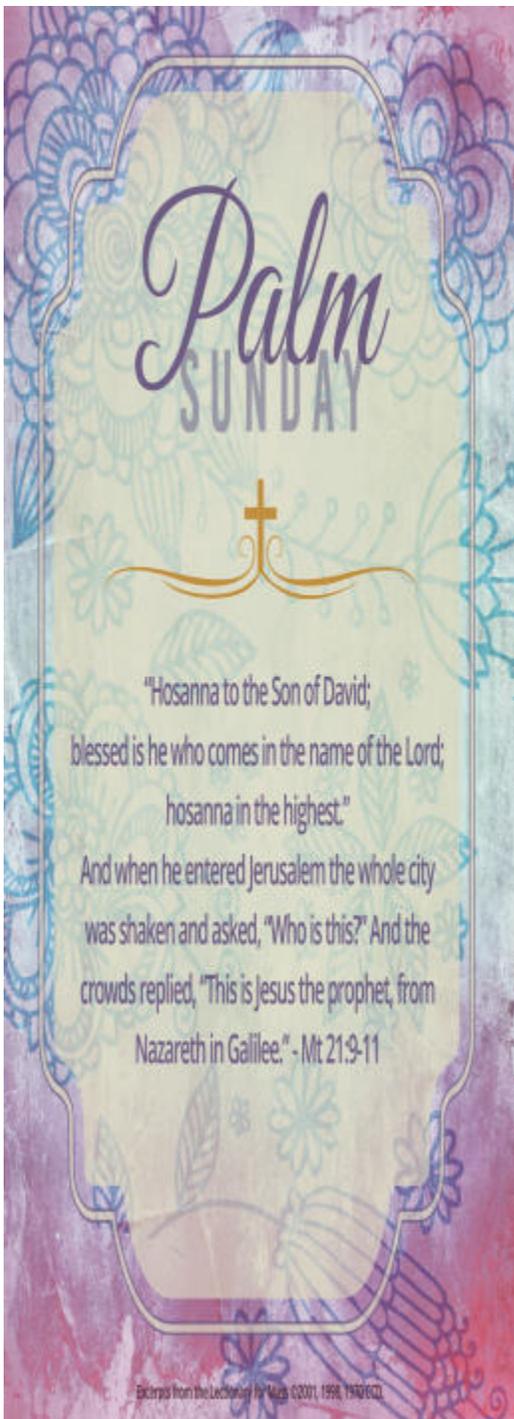
B. Online:

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

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS
Daniel Orfitelli who recently passed to the Lord. May his soul rest in peace. Amen.



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

catholicwestinghousevalley.org
madonnadelcastello.org
stmauriceparish.org

MEMORIAL OFFERINGS—TABERNACLE LAMPS

Good Shepherd: April 5—In memory of **Louis & Rose Pacella** from daughter, Elaine Pacella

St. Maurice: April 5—In memory of **Joe Bailey & Fera Family** from Carol Bailey

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

The brunch is rescheduled for September 13, 2020. This date coincides with the rescheduled Susan B. Komen Walk for the Cure date. More details will be provided as the date nears.

**Father Jeremy Mohler is now posting
his homilies online. To view them go to FrMohler.com .**

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

BIBLE STUDY 216

Until further notice, Bible Study at St John Fisher and St. Maurice is canceled.

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.

Until further notice:

CHURCHES CLOSED

Parish Office open:

Mon.-Fri. 8:30am-4:30 pm St. Maurice
412.271.0809

Food Pantry donations: Madonna/Word of God office,
2021 South Braddock Avenue, Swissvale

We are grateful for your understanding, support
and prayers in these unprecedented times.

May God bless and protect you.

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

Until further notice confessions have been canceled.

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 fresco of Madonna del Soccorso (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 di San Pietro M. Faliconi.

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,
so as to lead us, through the Cross,
to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

*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.*

Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis

KNIGHTS OF  COLUMBUS



Divine Mercy Sunday.com

Divine Mercy Novena

Jesus further asked that this Feast of the Divine Mercy be preceded by a Novena of Chaplets to the Divine Mercy which would begin on **Good Friday**. Say one chaplet each day following the novena intention. In her diary, St. Faustina wrote that Jesus told her:

"On each day of the novena you will bring to My Heart a different group of souls and you will immerse them in this ocean of My mercy... On each day you will beg My Father, on the strength of My passion, for the graces for these souls. By this novena I will grant every possible grace to souls." (Diary 1209, 796)

First Day

"Today bring to Me **All Mankind, especially all sinners** and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. In this way you will console Me in the bitter grief into which the loss of souls plunges Me."

Most Merciful Jesus, whose very nature it is to have compassion on us and to forgive us, do not look upon our sins, but upon our trust which we place in Your infinite goodness. Receive us all into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart, and never let us escape from It. We beg this of You by Your love which unites You to the Father and the Holy Spirit.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon all mankind and especially upon poor sinners, all enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. For the sake of His Sorrowful Passion show us Your mercy, that we may praise the omnipotence of Your mercy for ever and ever. Amen.

Second Day

"Today bring to Me the **Souls of Priests and Religious** and immerse them in My unfathomable mercy. It was they who gave Me strength to endure My bitter Passion. Through them as through channels My mercy flows out upon mankind."

Most Merciful Jesus, from whom comes all that is good, increase Your grace in men and women consecrated to Your service, that they may perform worthy works of mercy, and that all who see them may glorify the Father of Mercy who is in heaven.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the company of chosen ones in Your vineyard - upon the souls of priests and religious; and endow them with the strength of Your blessing. For the love of the Heart of Your Son in which they are enfolded, impart to them Your power and light, that they may be able to guide others in the way of salvation, and with one voice sing praise to Your boundless mercy for ages without end. Amen.

Third Day

"Today bring to Me **All Devout and Faithful Souls** and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. These souls brought Me consolation on the Way of the Cross. They were that drop of consolation in the midst of an ocean of bitterness."

Most Merciful Jesus, from the treasury of Your mercy, You impart Your graces in the great abundance to each and all. Receive us into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart and never let us escape from It. We beg this of You by that most wondrous love for the heavenly Father with which Your Heart burns so fiercely.

Eternal Father, turn Your Merciful gaze upon faithful souls, as upon the inheritance of Your Son. For the sake of His Sorrowful Passion, grant them Your blessing and surround them with Your constant protection. Thus may they never fail in love or lose the treasure of the holy faith, but rather, with all the hosts of Angels and Saints, may they glorify Your boundless mercy for endless ages. Amen.

Fourth Day

"Today bring to Me **Those Who Do Not Believe In God and Those Who Do Not Yet Know Me.** I was thinking also of them during My bitter Passion, and their future zeal comforted My heart. Immerse them in the ocean of My mercy."

Most Compassionate Jesus, You are the Light of the whole world. Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who do not believe in God and of those who as yet do not know You. Let the rays of Your grace enlighten them that they, too, together with us, may extol Your wonderful mercy; and do not let them escape from the abode which is Your Most Compassionate Heart.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls of those who do not believe in You, and of those who as yet do not know You, but who are enclosed in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. Draw them to the light of the Gospel. These souls do not know what great happiness it is to love You. Grant that they, too, may extol the generosity of Your mercy for endless ages. Amen.

Fifth Day

"Today bring to Me the **Souls of those who have separated themselves from My Church** and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. During My bitter Passion they tore at My Body and Heart, that is My Church. As they return to unity with the Church My wounds heal and in this way they alleviate My Passion."

Most Merciful Jesus, Goodness Itself, You do not refuse light to those who seek it of You. Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who have separated themselves from Your Church. Draw them by Your light into the unity of the Church, and do not let them escape from the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart; but bring it about that they, too, come to glorify the generosity of Your mercy.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls of those who have separated themselves from Your Son's Church, who have squandered Your blessings and misused Your graces obstinately persisting in their errors. Do not look upon their errors, but upon the love of Your Own Son and upon His bitter Passion, which He underwent for their sake, since they, too, are enclosed in His Most Compassionate Heart. Bring it about that they also may glorify Your great mercy for endless ages. Amen.

Sixth Day

"Today bring to Me **The Meek and Humble Souls and the Souls of Little Children** and immerse them in My mercy. These souls most closely resemble My Heart. They strengthened Me during My bitter agony. I saw them as earthly Angels who will keep vigil at My altars. I pour out upon them whole torrents of grace. Only the humble soul is capable of receiving My grace. I favor humble souls with My confidence."

Most Merciful Jesus, You Yourself have said, "Learn from Me for I am meek and humble of heart." Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart all meek and humble souls and the souls of little children. These souls send all heaven into ecstasy, and they are the heavenly Father's favorites. They are a sweet-smelling bouquet before the throne of God; God Himself takes delight in their fragrance. These souls have a permanent abode in Your Most Compassionate Heart, O Jesus, and they unceasingly sing out a hymn of love and mercy.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon meek souls, upon humble souls and upon little children, who are enfolded in the abode of the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. These souls bear the closest resemblance to Your Son. Their fragrance rises from the earth and reaches Your very throne. Father of mercy and of all goodness, I beg You by the love You bear these souls and by the delight you take in them: Bless the whole world, that all souls together may sing out the praises of Your mercy for endless ages. Amen.

Seventh Day

"Today bring to Me **The Souls Who Especially Venerate and Glorify My Mercy** and immerse them in My mercy. These souls sorrowed most over my Passion and entered most deeply into My spirit. They are living images of My Compassionate Heart. These souls will shine with a special brightness in the next life. Not one of them will go into the fire of hell. I shall particularly defend each one of them at the hour of death."

Most Merciful Jesus, whose Heart is Love Itself, receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who particularly extol and venerate the greatness of Your Mercy. These souls are mighty with the very power of God Himself. In the midst of all afflictions and adversities they go forward, confident in Your Mercy; and united to You, O Jesus, they carry all mankind on their shoulders. These souls will not be judged severely, but Your mercy will embrace them as they depart from this life.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls who glorify and venerate Your greatest attribute, that of Your fathomless mercy, and who are enclosed in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. These souls are a living Gospel; their hands are full of deeds of mercy and their hearts, overflowing with joy, sing a canticle of mercy to You, O Most High! I beg You O God: Show them Your mercy according to the hope and trust they have placed in You. Let there be accomplished in them the promise of Jesus, who said to them that during their life, but especially at the hour of death, the souls who will venerate this fathomless mercy of His, He Himself, will defend as His glory. Amen.

Eighth Day

"Today bring to Me **The Souls Who Are Detained in Purgatory** and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy. Let the torrents of My Blood cool down their scorching flames. All these souls are greatly loved by Me. They are making retribution to My justice. It is in your power to bring them relief. Draw all the indulgences from the treasury of My Church and offer them on their behalf. Oh, if you only know the torments they suffer, you would continually offer for them the alms of the spirit and pay off their debt to My justice."

Most Merciful Jesus, You Yourself have said that You desire mercy; so I bring into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls in Purgatory, souls who are very dear to You, and yet who must make retribution to Your justice. May the streams of Blood and Water which gushed forth from Your Heart put out the flames of Purgatory, that there, too, the power of Your mercy may be celebrated.

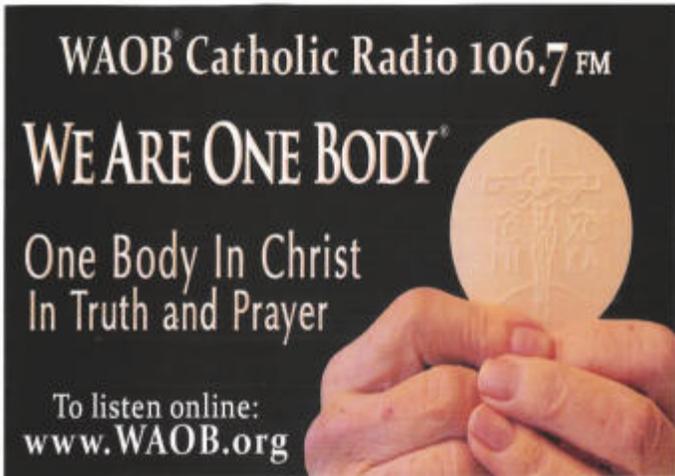
Eternal Father, turn Your most merciful gaze upon the souls suffering in Purgatory, who are enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. I beg You, by the sorrowful Passion of Jesus Your Son, and by all the bitterness with which His most sacred Soul was flooded, manifest Your mercy to the souls who are under Your just scrutiny. Look upon them in no other way but only through the Wounds of Jesus, Your dearly beloved Son; for we firmly believe that there is no limit to Your goodness and compassion. Amen.

Ninth Day

"Today bring to Me **The Souls Who Have Become Lukewarm** and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy. These souls wound My Heart most painfully. My soul suffered the most dreadful loathing in the Garden of Olives because of lukewarm souls. They were the reason I cried out: 'Father, take this cup away from Me, if it be Your will.' For them the last hope of salvation is to run to My mercy."

Most Compassionate Jesus, You are Compassion Itself. I bring lukewarm souls into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart. In this fire of Your pure love let these tepid souls, who, like corpses, filled You with such deep loathing, be once again set aflame. O Most Compassionate Jesus, exercise the omnipotence of Your mercy and draw them into the very ardor of Your love; and bestow upon them the gift of holy love, for nothing is beyond Your power.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon lukewarm souls who are nonetheless enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. Father of Mercy, I beg You by the bitter Passion of Your Son and by His three-hour agony on the Cross: let them, too, glorify the abyss of Your mercy. Amen



Thoughts to Reflect On and Share:
“Just because our churches are currently closed please do not feel abandoned. Know that all of you are remembered daily in the private Masses being offered by your clergy teams, as we long for the day when we can once again celebrate together the sacrifice of the Mass and receive the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.”
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.

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.

PARISH LIBRARY/GIFT SHOP NEWS

The Library & Gift Shop are closed during the COVID-19 emergency until further notice. If you have any special religious gift needs or library requests, email Karen Goldbach, goldbachkm@verizon.net.

MEMORIAL OFFERING

<input type="checkbox"/> Good Shepherd	<input type="checkbox"/> St. Colman	<input type="checkbox"/> St. Maurice	<input type="checkbox"/> Word of God
<input type="checkbox"/> Madonna del Castello	<input type="checkbox"/> St. John Fisher	<input type="checkbox"/> 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.

Tabernacle Lamp—\$25.00

In Memory/Honor: _____

From: _____

Week: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

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Sign up to have our weekly parish bulletin emailed to you at www.parishesonline.com



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