

St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish

540 3rd Ave NE - Valley City, ND 58072

WEBSITE:

www.catherineofalexandria.org

March 27, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday



Parish Team

Parish Office..... 845-0354
Monday 8am - 12pm and 12:30pm - 3:00pm
Tuesday- Friday 8am-12pm and 12:30pm-4:30pm

Pastor: Msgr. Dennis Skonseng
cell phone701-261-4716
e-mail: dennis.skonseng@fargodiocese.org

Deacons

Rev. Mr. Arlie Braunberger Rev. Mr. Ed Didier
Rev. Mr. Ray Grim Rev. Mr. Joe Leitner
Rev. Mr. Tom Vanorny

Parish Office Administrator: Jessica (Jess) Storhoff
e-mail: stcatherinesparishoffice@gmail.com

Liturgy Coordinator: Sue Judd
e-mail: st.catherine.liturgy.schedule@gmail.com

Family Faith Formation Coordinator: Sara Sorby

Lay Directors: Joe Tykwinski & Rhonda Fairfield

Parish Council:

Micki Isensee	James Nelson
Steve Jorissen	Roberta Lemnus
Ken Reid	Don Rondestvedt
Jodie Scherr	Joe Zubrod

St. Catherine School.....845-1453

Director of Religious Education:
Office Assistant: Jenny Faure

Rectory845-0725

Fax845-0556

Nearly Nu Store.....845-1022

Baptisms: Contact the Parish Office.

Marriage: Contact the Pastor at least 6 months prior to the wedding.

RCIA: Contact the Parish Office

Home Bound Eucharist: Darlene Kerzman,
845-4316 or 701-721-1899

Bulletin Deadline: 3 PM on Wednesdays

Newcomers: WELCOME! Please register at the Parish Office or use the registration form on our website.

If you have an announcement for the bulletin, please email
Jess: stcatherinesparishoffice@gmail.com

Thank God for Annual Parish Lenten Mission

We give thanks to God for our annual Parish Lenten Mission, "Beloved Sons and Daughters of God." We thank God for Father Greg Luger and the teaching that he gave us to help us grow in holiness. We thank God for the members of the Spiritual Life Committee who planned and organized our Mission. We thank God for the people who provided meals for Father Luger and me and who helped with the potluck supper, coffee and muffins, and ice cream social for all of the parishioners. We thank God for those who helped in any way with our Parish Mission. I pray that God will help all of us to live as His beloved sons and daughters with His supernatural grace in Jesus our Lord.
Msgr. Skonseng



God's Gift Appeal 2022

Thanks to all of our parishioners who have made your gift to the 2022 God's Gift Appeal. As of March 18, 2022, St. Catherine's Parish has pledged gifts for a total amount of \$43,962.

This is about 65% of our goal of \$68,154. If you have not yet made a gift or pledge, please fill out a commitment card located in the main entrance of the church. Please participate in the support of our diocesan church. --- Msgr. Skonseng

Fish Fry for Lent

All of you are welcome to our Fish Fry and Potluck for Lent on Friday, April 1st, at 6:15 PM in the Parish Hall. We aren't fooling. Bernie Nelson has volunteered to fry and bake fish. We also invite you to bring salads, pastas, baked goods, or other food for the Potluck to be served with the fish. The Fish Fry will take place after Stations of the Cross at 5:00 PM and Mass at 5:30 PM.

March/April Calendar of Events

SUN 27	4th Sunday of Lent, Laetare Sunday 8:00am Rosary 8:30am Mass 10:15am Divine Mercy Chaplet 10:30am Mass 2:00pm Movie - Saint Maria Soledad 6:30pm RCIA
MON 28	7:30am Rosary 8:00am Mass 7:00pm Healing Prayer Group
TUE 29	7:30am Rosary 8:00am Mass 8:30am - 10pm Adoration 8:30am Tuesday Morning Movie 6:00pm Finance Council 7:00pm Parish Council
WED 30	7:30am Rosary 8:00am Mass 8:45am Cursillo Prayer Group—SHR 8:50am Students Presenting Stations of the Cross at the Church 6:30pm Family Faith Formation 7:00pm Youth Group
THU 31	8:30am Rosary 9:00am Mass 1:00pm Quilters 6:30pm Quilters
FRI 1	5:00pm Stations of the Cross 5:30pm Mass 6:15pm Fish Fry Potluck Supper
SAT 2	10:00am Mass at Mercy Hospital 5:00pm Rosary 5:30pm Mass
Sun 3	5th Sunday of Lent 8:00am Rosary 8:30am Mass 9:30am Coffee and Rolls 10:15am Divine Mercy Chaplet 10:30am Mass 2:00pm Movie - The Miracle of Father Kapaun 6:30pm RCIA

MASS INTENTIONS March 28 - April 3

Monday 8:00am † Kenny Lang
Tuesday 8:00am † Joe H & Lucille Reidmann
Wednesday 8:00am † Kenny Lang
Thursday 9:00am † Marie Meath
Friday 5:30pm † Don Johnson
Saturday 5:30pm † Donna Houle
Sunday 8:30am People of the Parish
 10:30am † Holy Souls in Purgatory

RECONCILIATION:

7:30 - 7:50am Monday – Wednesday;
 8:30 - 8:50 Thursday; 5:00 - 5:20pm Friday;
 4:00 - 5:15pm Saturday; 7:30 - 8:15am Sunday

TODAYS READINGS

First Reading — God's people enter the promised land, observe the Passover, and eat of the produce of the land (Joshua 5:9a, 10-12) *or* 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a.

Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34) *or* Psalm 23.

Second Reading — We are now ambassadors for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17-21) *or* Ephesians 5:8-14.

Gospel — We must rejoice when our brother who was dead in sin repents and comes back to life (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32) *or* John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38].

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b;
Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9;
Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14,
17-18; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23;
Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12;
Jn 7:40-53

Sunday: Is 43:16-21; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 3:8-14;
Jn 8:1-11;
Alternate readings (Year A):
Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11;
Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Lent

Friday: First Friday; Abstinence; April Fool's Day

Saturday: St. Francis of Paola; First Saturday

PRAYER NETWORK

Remember in your prayers our parishioners and friends who are ill or are in need of our prayers: George Bodnar, Mary Mitzel, Rebecca Radermacher, Bob McGough, Sharon Linnehan, Lisa Puhr, Dietrich Schlichtmann, Brian Ventsch, Rita Beaudry, Louis & Kelly Bohl, David Kurtenbach, Caroline Schumacher, Joyce Hafner, Pat Schwehr, Sandy Christianson, Robin Kinney, Sharon Kinney, Dale & Virginia Davy, Kathy Nelson, Larry Zaun, Karen Leadbetter, James Leadbetter, Matt & Emersyn Vanic, Darlene Stanford-Adams, Cheryl Kappel, Diane Sherman, Lucille Winkler, Allen Siebert, Mary Ann Anderson, Shirley Starke, Anne Wuolu, Linda Simmons, Hayle Jenson, Mary E. Svenningsen, Nola and Gary Newton, Father Richard Fineo, Mike Kunert, Angie Werner, Jeff Differding, Audrey Suhr, Linda Hesch, Rita Clancy, Harriet Dimmer, Peggy Roehrich, Sharon Vanorny and any others who are in need of prayers.

FINANCIAL REPORT: March 20, 2022

Regular Parish Income

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Last Week	8,229.20	9,098.00	(868.80)
Year to Date	356,941.09	345,724.00	11,217.09

Registered families.....492

Adult Envelopes	8,108.70
Plate	102.00
Children	13.50
Energy	5.00

Total Collection **8,229.20**

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**Ukraine Collection** **3,600.00**

**Thank you for your generous gifts!!**

**Online Giving available @**

**[www.catherineofalexandria.org](http://www.catherineofalexandria.org)**



*Our Lord wishes for us to be whole, body, mind and soul. To be healed, to be complete. There is a group of individuals from the deanery that are offering to pray*

*with you, for healing. We would be willing to come to pray with you as an individual, at your home or parish church. Confidentiality is assured. **The St. Catherine's Healing Prayer Group meets on the 4th Monday of the month at 7 PM in the Church our next prayer meeting is Monday, March 28, 2022.** We are also asking for individuals who would like to be involved in this healing ministry from around the deanery to join us. We have gotten permission from the priests in the deanery so please visit with your pastor. If you are interested please contact one of the individuals listed below for more information.*

Doran Chandler 701-840-1257  
Deacon Jim McAllister 701-840-1473

### Tuesday Morning Movies

Please join the Tuesday Morning Movie Group, each Tuesday morning after the 8:00 Mass in the Sacred Heart Room for a movie, muffins and mighty good fellowship. Showing this week is "*Bishop Sheen - Servant of All*". All are welcome!!

### Prayer Quilts/Shawls Available

Some of our parishioners may be dealing with some very challenging physical, mental, spiritual or emotional situations/needs (a terminal illness, treatments, an accident, severe depression, a miscarriage) To convey the prayers & support of our parish family, Prayer Quilts/Shawls are available for all parishioners who will need them. To request a Prayer Quilt/Shawl contact: Christine, 840-2580 or Lela, 840-8352.

### Rekindle your passion for the protection of life!

Valley City Right to Life invites you to attend the *Friend-Raiser Banquet* on Thursday, April 7 at 6 pm at Grace Free Lutheran Church. Join us for an evening of food, fellowship, music, and inspiring words from Roxane Salonen - author, speaker, and prolife advocate. Please RSVP by calling or texting Darlene Kerzman at 701-721-1899 by March 27. Free will offering.

### Dona Eis Requiem

Please remember in your prayers the repose of the soul of **Iris Walle**, who recently passed away. May she rest forever in God's loving care. Her son Jerome and daughter Angie are in Williston. 3139 7th Ave W, Williston, ND 58801.

Please remember in your prayers the repose of the soul of **Leonard (LJ) Dyrness**, brother of Ralph Dyrness, who recently passed away. May he rest forever in God's loving care

### Thanksgiving for Gift from Estate of Ethel Stangler

We give thanks to God for the financial gift of \$31,794.00 to St. Catherine's Church from the Estate of Ethel Stangler. Ethel Stangler was a member of St. Catherine's Parish during the last several years of her life. We thank God for her charity to us to provide for the temporal and spiritual needs of our parish. We have deposited this gift in our savings account in the Deposit and Loan Fund of the Diocese of Fargo. --- Msgr. Skonseng

## St Catherine's Teen Corner Grades 9-12, 7:00pm

**March 30:** "What Church Do We Belong To?"

**April 6:** "Where Were You at the Crucifixion?"

**April 13:** "Sedar Meal"



### **Adoration Adorers Needed**

We are in need of Adoration adorers on Tuesdays from 8:30am to 10:00pm. In great need from 1-2pm, 3-4pm, and 8-9pm. If you are unable to make it during your scheduled time, please let your hour coordinator know, so they can find a sub! Please contact the Parish office if you would like to sign up for an adoration hour.



### **Family Faith Formation**



Last weekend, our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders attended their last retreat before they receive the sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Eucharist on Saturday, April 9 at a 10:00am Mass. We continue to pray for them as they make their final preparations.

Amy Bannerman  
Brody Bopp  
Collins Glandt  
Raya Jensen  
Bailey Muske  
Cody Svenningsen

Derek Bannerman  
Victory Bopp  
Niklaas Hellinga  
Jentz Kunze  
Sam Praska  
Brekkan Thornton

Rylee Berg  
Braxler Chase  
Andrew Hoff  
Joshua Martin  
Ben Sorby  
Ethan Zarbano

There will be no Family Faith Formation on April 6 as originally scheduled. **Students will still have classes**, but we will not meet as a group beforehand – parents and students – together in the church proper. We are reserving this time for the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and their families to attend Reconciliation before they receive the sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Eucharist.

#### **UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:**

Wednesday, March 30 – Class  
Wednesday, April 6 – Class and Reconciliation for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and their families  
Saturday, April 9 – Confirmation and First Holy Eucharist Mass 10:00am  
Wednesday, April 13 – **NO CLASS** – Reconciliation for all parishioners from 5-8pm  
Wednesday, April 20 – Class

We are back on Facebook on the parish page, so "like" us and follow our journey throughout the year!  
St. Catherine of Alexandria Parish or @stcatherineff  
Sara Sorby – [sara.sorby@k12.nd.us](mailto:sara.sorby@k12.nd.us)

### **St. Catherine's Serving Group**

April Serving Group: **April 3:** Coffee and Rolls. Volunteers are needed to set tables, serve, clean up, donate breakfast type food items.

**April 24:** Assist second grade parents organize, serve First Eucharist/Confirmation celebration meal.

Your April contact couple is Wayne and Carol Denault; home phone: 840-2444,  
email: [carolzdenault@hotmail.com](mailto:carolzdenault@hotmail.com)

## WATCH

**TRIDUUM: A SPIRITUAL PILGRIMAGE**

In Triduum: A Spiritual Pilgrimage, the viewer is brought deeper into the story, landscape, and reality of Holy Week. It draws those with open hearts and minds toward a deeper understanding of Christ's victory while offering rich meditations for the pilgrimage of daily life.



To set up your free account visit [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup) and select our parish.

**Help Needed for Camp Summit**

Youth are needed for the Service Team (16-17 years old) and the Staff (18 + years old) to help with Camp Summit, for youth entering grades 7, 8, and 9. This camp will take place on July 10-14, 2022, at Red Willow Bible Camp near Binford, ND. If you want to help, please contact Brady Borslien, Youth Director, at [brady.borslien@fargodiocese.org](mailto:brady.borslien@fargodiocese.org).



The Diocese of Fargo is excited to announce a new camp for Middle School students this summer. Camp Summit is for all youth entering grades 7, 8, & 9 who have a desire to deepen their relationship with Jesus and to share it with others they encounter. Throughout camp, youth will engage in prayer, worship, fellowship, leadership formation, recreation, and fun. This five-day experience is designed to encourage and equip the youth for discipleship to their family, friends, and communities.

Camp Summit will take place at Red Willow Bible Camp in Binford, ND, July 10-14, 2022. The cost is \$325.00/camper or \$300.00/camper with two or more from the same family. To learn more about this opportunity, visit: <https://www.fargodiocese.org/campsummit> or contact Brady Borslien at [brady.borslien@fargodiocese.org](mailto:brady.borslien@fargodiocese.org).

**SEARCH RETREAT**

Do you want to grow closer to God? Do you want to meet other like-minded young adults? Do you need a "retreat" from the world around you? Experience God in a personal and real way. SEARCH for Christian Maturity has a retreat coming up April 29th to May 1st at Maryvale Convent in Valley City. Youth and young adults, 16 and older are invited to attend. Details and application at <https://www.fargodiocese.org/search4cm> or call Dori at 952-210-2219. Applications are due no later than Monday, April 11th.

**Maryvale Job Opening**

Maryvale in Valley City is seeking a PT/FT Dietary Cook to prepare home cooked meals for Sisters and guests. Will do other kitchen and hospitality duties as needed. Hours can be flexible, 10-6:30pm or 7-3:30 pm with every other weekend. Salary is competitive and based on experience. Willing to train. Excellent benefit package including health, vision, dental, life insurance and retirement package. Complete application online at: <http://www.sistersofmaryofthepresentation.org/smp-employment-application/> or call Amanda at 845-2864 for more information.



### Administrative Assistant Position

St. Catherine Elementary School is seeking an Administrative Assistant. St. Catherine School is beyond its 100th year, currently serving children in kindergarten through grade six.

The Administrative Assistant for St. Catherine Elementary School is responsible to provide the appropriate atmosphere in welcoming parents and the public through telephone, written, and personal communications. The Administrative Assistant under supervision of the building principal maintains school records, processes written and telephone communications, monitors accounts payable and receivable, performs general office management tasks and other duties as assigned. The ideal candidate must be organized, possess exceptional attention to detail, be reliable, responsible, trustworthy, and perform the job in a manner that supports the teachings and values of the Catholic Church.

Preferred qualifications include a minimum of 2 years office experience, computer knowledge, including Microsoft Suite, and Quickbooks. Submit a cover letter addressing all qualifications as listed above, resume, and three professional references with contact information to: St. Catherine School, Attention: Jenny Faure, 540 3rd Ave NE Valley City, ND 58072 or via e-mail to [jenny.faure@k12.nd.us](mailto:jenny.faure@k12.nd.us). Position open until filled.



### Full Time Custodian Position

St. Catherine School has an immediate opening for a Custodian. The ideal candidate will be a reliable, dependable, self-starter, with exceptional attention to detail. Must have understanding of carpet cleaning, stripping and waxing floors, and all other aspects of cleaning. Must be able to facilitate the maintenance needs of the facilities and grounds, such as plumbing, electrical, heating and cooling, and painting. Must be flexible, and

have very good communication and interpersonal skills. A valid ND Driver's License is required and candidate must successfully complete a background screening. This is a full time position with benefits. Application form may be picked up at St. Catherine School office, or found online at [www.stcatherine.k12.nd.us](http://www.stcatherine.k12.nd.us) under Careers. Application may be dropped off at the St. Catherine School Office or e-mailed to [jenny.faure@k12.nd.us](mailto:jenny.faure@k12.nd.us). Position is open until filled.

### Divine Mercy Rosaries for Ukraine

Please buy a Divine Mercy rosary or booklet and add the most generous donation you can. All proceeds will be used to help the people of Ukraine through the Diocese or through the Vatican agency, Aid to the Church in Need.

Over 3 million refugees have fled the war in Ukraine, and more than 2 million have gone to St. Faustina's home country, Poland. Polish people have warmly welcomed them into their homes, but resources are limited and refugees are many, with more women and children arriving every day.

#### Please Help!

**We are selling the rosaries and booklets for a basic minimum price, plus as large donation as you can give. Basic prices are:**

**Divine Mercy Rosary: \$5.00**

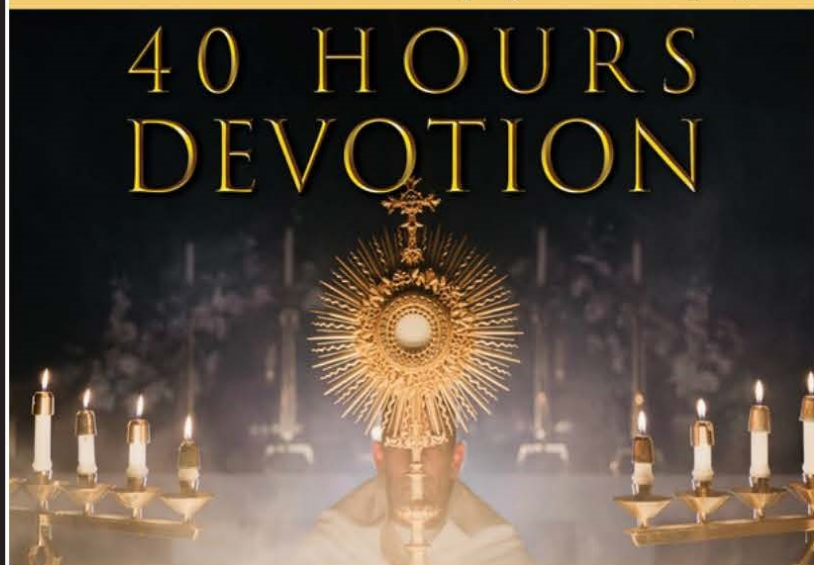
**Divine Mercy Booklet (88 pages!!): \$5.00**

**Pray the Rosary Booklet (62 pages, updated to include the Luminous Mysteries): \$3.50**

Please place the price and your donation in the blue and yellow box. Checks should be made out to St. Catherine's Church.

## 40 HOURS DEVOTION AND PARISH MISSION

Eucharistic Adoration from Friday April 1—Sunday April 3



To help us draw closer to our Lord during this Lenten Season, St. James Basilica will host a 40 Hours Devotion on Apr. 1, 2, and 3. The 40 Hours Devotion is a special 40-hour period of continuous prayer made before the Blessed Sacrament in solemn exposition.

The event includes around-the-clock Eucharistic Adoration, Masses, confessions, and Fr. Jeff Eppler will lead a parish mission with a series of homilies. All are welcome to attend as much of the 40 hours as their schedule permits. Adoration during this event is open to everyone. We will need adorers to sign up for time slots. Adorers for late-night/very early morning time slots will especially be needed. See the sign-up by the office!

### Friday, April 1

- 4:00 pm - Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
  - 4:05 pm - 5:05 pm - Sacrament of Confession by Fr. Jeff Eppler
  - 4:35 pm - Recitation of the Holy Rosary
  - 5:15 pm - First Friday Opening Mass with Fr. Eppler preceded by Simple Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament
  - 5:45 pm - First Friday Prayers & Stations of the Cross
  - 6:15 pm - Simple Supper: Kneephla Soup Served by St. John's Academy Staff
  - 7:15 pm - Fr. Jeff Eppler Talk #1
  - 8:15-9:00 pm Praise and Worship
- Adoration continues throughout the night in the church*

### Saturday, April 2

- 9:00 am-9:45 am - Confessions with Fr. Jeff Eppler
  - 9:25 am - Recitation of the Holy Rosary
  - 10:00 am - First Saturday Healing Mass preceded by Simple Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament
  - 11:00 am - Exposition of Blessed Sacrament
  - 5:00 pm - Fr. Jeff Eppler Talk #2
  - 6:00 pm-6:50 pm - Confessions
  - 7:00 pm - Regular Sunday Vigil Mass preceded by Simple Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament
  - 8:00 pm - Exposition of Blessed Sacrament
  - 8:00 pm-9:00 pm - Praise and Worship
- Adoration continues throughout the night in the church*

### Sunday, April 3

- 7:30 am - Confessions
- 8:20 am - Simple Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- 8:30 am - Regular Sunday Mass
- 9:30 am-10:20 am - Confessions
- 10:30 am - Regular Sunday Mass
- 12:00 pm - Exposition of Blessed Sacrament
- 3:00 pm - Parish Penance Service
- 5:00 pm - Fr. Eppler Talk #3
- 6:00 pm - Benediction and Potluck Reception in the Community Room



**WE WELCOME  
FR. JEFF EPPLER  
OUR LEADER OF THE 40  
HOURS DEVOTION AND  
PARISH MISSION**



**This Year's Mission Theme:  
I WILL WALK WITH THE LORD  
IN THE LAND OF THE LIVING!**

# NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR THE 7 GIFTS

We ask that you pray this Novena to the Holy Spirit for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Confirmation Candidates

**Please begin on Thursday March 31<sup>st</sup> and end on Friday April 8th**

## Opening Daily Prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit Amen.

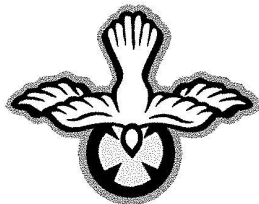
Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.

And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray:

Father, you taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending them the light of your Holy Spirit. In that Spirit give us right judgment, and the joy of His comfort and guidance. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever amen.



## 1<sup>st</sup> Day:

### **Come, Spirit of Wisdom**

Heavenly Father, in your kindness send down upon us, who trust in you, your Holy Spirit.

May He dwell within us to illumine our minds, and to guide us.

May He strengthen us in following Christ, our Lord. May the Holy Spirit's presence console and comfort us to judge rightly in all that concerns our salvation. This we ask through Jesus Christ, your Son. Amen.

**"The Spirit of the Lord fills the whole world and holds all things together."** (Wisdom 1:7)

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Day:

### **Come, Spirit of Understanding**

Father in Heaven, in your loving mercy and goodness, grant us your Holy Spirit. With His unfailing help we shall understand your ways, and discern your holy purpose. The Paraclete, your Holy Spirit, will instruct us in everything reminding us of all Christ taught us. This favor we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

**"The Spirit of truth who comes from the Father will bear witness on my behalf."**

(John 15:26)

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Day:

### **Come, Spirit of Counsel**

Almighty Father, you gave Your only Son for our redemption, and confirm His message by the witness of your Holy Spirit. Inspire us today with His gift of counsel so that we may always know what is best to do, and ever be confirmed in acting rightly. We ask this grace in the name of Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**"I prayed and prudence was given me; I pleaded, and the Spirit of Wisdom came to me."** (Wisdom 7:7)

## 4<sup>th</sup> Day:

### **Come, Spirit of Fortitude**

Father, all-powerful, in our weakness and sinfulness we fail unless you strengthen us with your Holy Spirit. Send us, then, His gift of courage to help our human frailty so that we may be perfect in doing your holy will. In Christ's name we ask for the gift of fortitude.

**"The love of God has been poured out in our hearts by His Spirit living in us."** (Romans 5:5)

### 5<sup>th</sup> Day:

#### **Come, Spirit of Knowledge**

Father, all-wise and all-knowing, your Holy Spirit searches the deep things of God, and makes known to us the mind of our Lord, your Son. Impart to us now His gift of knowledge so that we may be enabled to love and serve you always in all those we encounter in life. In Christ's name we beg this gift of His Spirit. Amen.

**"God chose those whom the world considers absurd to shame the wise; He singled out the weak to shame the strong."** (1 Corinthians 1:27)

### 6<sup>th</sup> Day:

#### **Come, Spirit of Piety**

Father most holy, stir up within us your Holy Spirit who endows us with His gift of piety. The grace of your Spirit humbles us before your sanctity, and gives us reverence for your commands and our neighbor's needs. May we be confirmed in the Spirit by His gift of piety. We ask this in Christ's name. Amen.

**"Son though he was, He learned obedience from what He suffered, and was heard for His reverence."** (Hebrews 5:7-8)

### 7<sup>th</sup> Day:

#### **Come, Spirit of Fear**

Father of all men, fill us with that saving fear which is the gift of your Holy Spirit. Your divine mildness and kindness soften our natural dread of your blazing might and power. By the inspiration of your Spirit within us assist us to serve you with fitting and reverential fear. We humbly implore this in the name of Christ, your Son. Amen.

**"This treasure we possess in earthen vessels to make it clear that its surpassing power comes from God, and not from us."**

(II Corinthians 4:7)

### 8<sup>th</sup> Day:

#### **Come, Holy Spirit**

Come Holy Spirit, Creator blest,  
And in our souls take up your rest.  
Come with your grace and heavenly aid,  
To fill the hearts which you have made.  
To You, our comforter, we cry,  
To You, the gift of God most high,  
O, fount of life, and fire of love,  
Our soul's anointing from above.

**"The way we know we remain in Him and He in us is that He has given us of His Spirit."**  
(John 4:13)

### 9<sup>th</sup> Day:

Come, Holy Spirit, come;  
Come, Father of the poor!  
Come, with treasures that endure:  
Come, you light of all who live!

You in toil are comfort sweet;  
Pleasant coolness in the heat;  
Solace in the midst of woe.

Give us comfort when we die;  
Give us life with you on high;  
Give us joys that never end.  
**"We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
The Lord, the giver of life."**

### Closing Daily Prayer:

God, our Father, pour out the gifts of your Holy Spirit on the world. You sent the Spirit on your Church to begin the teaching of the Gospel: Now let the Spirit continue the work in the world through the hearts of all who believe. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WISDOM  
UNDERSTANDING  
COUNSEL



FORTITUDE  
KNOWLEDGE  
PIETY  
FEAR



Dear Brother,

Nearly a month has passed since the outbreak of the war in Ukraine that is daily inflicting immense suffering upon its sorely tried people and threatening world peace. At this dark hour, the Church is urgently called to intercede before the Prince of Peace and to demonstrate her closeness to those directly affected by the conflict. I am grateful to the many people who have responded with great generosity to my appeals for prayer, fasting and charity.

Now, also in response to numerous requests by the People of God, I wish in a special way to entrust the nations at war to the Blessed Virgin Mary. As I announced yesterday at the conclusion of the Angelus prayer, on 25 March, the Solemnity of the Annunciation, I intend to carry out a solemn Act of Consecration of humanity, and Russia and Ukraine in particular, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Since it is fitting that we should invoke peace with hearts renewed by God's forgiveness, the Act of Consecration will take place in the context of a Celebration of Penance to be held in Saint Peter's Basilica at 5:00 p.m., Rome time. The Act itself will take place about 6:30 p.m.

This Act of Consecration is meant to be a gesture of the universal Church, which in this dramatic moment lifts up to God, through his Mother and ours, the cry of pain of all those who suffer and implore an end to the violence, and to entrust the future of our human family to the Queen of Peace. I ask you to join in this Act by inviting the priests, religious and faithful to assemble in their churches and places of prayer on 25 March, so that God's Holy People may raise a heartfelt and choral plea to Mary our Mother. I am sending you the text of the prayer of consecration, so that all of us can recite it throughout that day, in fraternal union.

I thank you for the attention you will give to this request and for your ready cooperation. With great affection, I bless you and the faithful entrusted to your pastoral care. May Jesus protect you and the Holy Virgin watch over you. I ask you, please, also to pray for me.

Fraternally,

*Franciscus*

From Saint John Lateran, 21 March 2022

*Act of Consecration  
to the Immaculate Heart of Mary  
Basilica of Saint Peter  
25 March 2022*

O Mary, Mother of God and our Mother, in this time of trial we turn to you. As our Mother, you love us and know us: no concern of our hearts is hidden from you. Mother of mercy, how often we have experienced your watchful care and your peaceful presence! You never cease to guide us to Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Yet we have strayed from that path of peace. We have forgotten the lesson learned from the tragedies of the last century, the sacrifice of the millions who fell in two world wars. We have disregarded the commitments we made as a community of nations. We have betrayed peoples' dreams of peace and the hopes of the young. We grew sick with greed, we thought only of our own nations and their interests, we grew indifferent and caught up in our selfish needs and concerns. We chose to ignore God, to be satisfied with our illusions, to grow arrogant and aggressive, to suppress innocent lives and to stockpile weapons. We stopped being our neighbour's keepers and stewards of our common home. We have ravaged the garden of the earth with war and by our sins we have broken the heart of our heavenly Father, who desires us to be brothers and sisters. We grew indifferent to everyone and everything except ourselves. Now with shame we cry out: Forgive us, Lord!

Holy Mother, amid the misery of our sinfulness, amid our struggles and weaknesses, amid the mystery of iniquity that is evil and war, you remind us that God never abandons us, but continues to look upon us with love, ever ready to forgive us and raise us up to new life. He has given you to us and made your Immaculate Heart a refuge for the Church and for all humanity. By God's gracious will, you are ever with us; even in the most troubled moments of our history, you are there to guide us with tender love.

We now turn to you and knock at the door of your heart. We are your beloved children. In every age you make yourself known to us, calling us to conversion. At this dark hour, help us and grant us your comfort. Say to us once more: "Am I not here, I who am your Mother?" You are able to untie the knots of our hearts and of our times. In you we place our trust. We are confident that, especially in moments of trial, you will not be deaf to our supplication and will come to our aid.

That is what you did at Cana in Galilee, when you interceded with Jesus and he worked the first of his signs. To preserve the joy of the wedding feast, you said to him: "They have no wine" (*Jn* 2:3). Now, O Mother, repeat those words and that prayer, for in our own day we have run out of the wine of hope, joy has fled, fraternity has faded. We have forgotten our humanity and squandered the gift of peace. We opened our hearts to violence and destructiveness. How greatly we need your maternal help!

Therefore, O Mother, hear our prayer.

Star of the Sea, do not let us be shipwrecked in the tempest of war.

Ark of the New Covenant, inspire projects and paths of reconciliation.

Queen of Heaven, restore God's peace to the world.  
Eliminate hatred and the thirst for revenge, and teach us forgiveness.  
Free us from war, protect our world from the menace of nuclear weapons.  
Queen of the Rosary, make us realize our need to pray and to love.  
Queen of the Human Family, show people the path of fraternity.  
Queen of Peace, obtain peace for our world.

O Mother, may your sorrowful plea stir our hardened hearts. May the tears you shed for us make this valley parched by our hatred blossom anew. Amid the thunder of weapons, may your prayer turn our thoughts to peace. May your maternal touch soothe those who suffer and flee from the rain of bombs. May your motherly embrace comfort those forced to leave their homes and their native land. May your Sorrowful Heart move us to compassion and inspire us to open our doors and to care for our brothers and sisters who are injured and cast aside.

Holy Mother of God, as you stood beneath the cross, Jesus, seeing the disciple at your side, said: "Behold your son" (*Jn* 19:26). In this way he entrusted each of us to you. To the disciple, and to each of us, he said: "Behold, your Mother" (v. 27). Mother Mary, we now desire to welcome you into our lives and our history. At this hour, a weary and distraught humanity stands with you beneath the cross, needing to entrust itself to you and, through you, to consecrate itself to Christ. The people of Ukraine and Russia, who venerate you with great love, now turn to you, even as your heart beats with compassion for them and for all those peoples decimated by war, hunger, injustice and poverty.

Therefore, Mother of God and our Mother, to your Immaculate Heart we solemnly entrust and consecrate ourselves, the Church and all humanity, especially Russia and Ukraine. Accept this act that we carry out with confidence and love. Grant that war may end and peace spread throughout the world. The "Fiat" that arose from your heart opened the doors of history to the Prince of Peace. We trust that, through your heart, peace will dawn once more. To you we consecrate the future of the whole human family, the needs and expectations of every people, the anxieties and hopes of the world.

Through your intercession, may God's mercy be poured out on the earth and the gentle rhythm of peace return to mark our days. Our Lady of the "Fiat", on whom the Holy Spirit descended, restore among us the harmony that comes from God. May you, our "living fountain of hope", water the dryness of our hearts. In your womb Jesus took flesh; help us to foster the growth of communion. You once trod the streets of our world; lead us now on the paths of peace. Amen.



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## EASTER FLOWERS

*Help fill our Church with the beauty of Easter with a gift for a family member, living or deceased. Names of those remembered will be listed in the Easter bulletin. Donations are used for Easter flowers and decorations. Please complete the following information and return to the Parish Office by April 12.*

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Person(s) being remembered:

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