



# FORGIVE



ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH · MARCH 28, 2021  
216 NASSAU STREET · PRINCETON, NJ · 08542 · 609-924-1743 · STPAULSOFPINCETON.ORG

# WELCOME HOME



## PASTOR

FR. MIGUEL VALLE  
mvalle

@stpaulsofprinceton.org



## PAROCHIAL VICAR

FR. CARLO CALISIN  
ccalisin

@stpaulsofprinceton.org



## COORD. OF RCIA

DCN. FRANK CRIVELLO  
fcrivello

@stpaulsofprinceton.org



## MARRIAGE PREP

DCN. JIM KNIPPER  
jknipper

@stpaulsofprinceton.org

## CONNECT WITH US



### WEBSITE/LIVE STREAM

stpaulsofprinceton.org



### FACEBOOK

@spp.church.princeton



### INSTAGRAM

@spp.church



### TWITTER

@stpaulsofprinceton



### CONSTANT CONTACT

bit.ly/stpauls2020

## PHONE NUMBERS

PARISH OFFICE 609-924-1743

PARISH FAX 609-924-7510

## RECEPTION HOURS

BY PHONE M-F 9:00AM-4:30PM

IN PERSON M-F 9:00AM-3:00PM  
*Closed for lunch 12:00pm-12:45pm*

## MASS TIMES

DAILY (MON-SAT) 8:15AM  
(MON-FRI) 12:10PM

SATURDAY 5:30PM  
7:00PM EN ESPANOL

SUNDAY 8:30AM, 10:00AM,  
11:30AM, 5:00PM  
1:00PM EN ESPANOL

Please **make a reservation** for Saturday evening/Sunday Masses on parish website (Wed 9am - Fri 12pm)

Bishop O'Connell has granted us permission to have public Masses.

**There is no obligation to attend Mass in the Diocese of Trenton.** All Masses will be live streamed and available for replay through our website and social media.

## RECONCILIATION

WEDNESDAYS 7:00PM

SATURDAYS 4:00PM

AND BY PRIVATE APPOINTMENT

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is available by scheduling an appointment. Please contact Monica Heucke:

**mheucke@stpaulsofprinceton.org**

## PARISH STAFF

ERNIE ANDREOLI DIR. OF MUSIC MINISTRY  
eandreoli@stpaulsofprinceton.org

MYNOR ARRIOLA FACILITIES MANAGER  
mynor@stpaulsofprinceton.org

SARA CORTES HISP. COORD. OF RELIGIOUS ED  
scortes@stpaulsofprinceton.org

SUZANNE EBERHARD BUSINESS MANAGER  
seberhard@stpaulsofprinceton.org

MONICA HEUCKE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT  
mheucke@stpaulsofprinceton.org

SUSANA IRAGORRI HISP. ADMIN. ASSISTANT  
siragorri@stpaulsofprinceton.org

NANCY JACKSON FINANCE ADMIN. ASSISTANT  
njackson@stpaulsofprinceton.org

KAIT MAYER MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS  
kmayer@stpaulsofprinceton.org

JOHN MCGUIRE DIR. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
jmcguire@stpaulsofprinceton.org

MAUREEN SANO REL. ED. ADMIN. ASSISTANT  
msano@stpaulsofprinceton.org

MARY BETH WELLS PARISH ACCOUNTANT  
mbwells@stpaulsofprinceton.org

# WEEKLY CLERGY REFLECTION

I am sure that many of us cannot believe how quickly this time of Lent has passed, even in these difficult and uncertain times. It is certainly a Lent that we will remember! Perhaps now, we can reflect upon all the many and rich symbols that we associate with Holy Week and Easter. So let us begin by delving into the signs or marks of Palm Sunday.

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, or, to give it the correct title, "Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord." Before the reforms of the SEcond Vatican COUncil, it had an even longer name: Palm Sunday of the Solemn Procession of Palms in Honor of Christ the King. It was also called the Second Passion Sunday because the passion-tide of the Lord (the time when we focus on Jesus' passion: his arrest, trial, suffering, and crucifixion) began a week earlier on the fifth Sunday in Lent. Incidentally, that is why in some churches, crosses and statues are covered in a veil or cloth during these few weeks from the fifth Sunday.

Normally, the celebration of Mass on Palm Sunday takes the usual form, but with two key exceptions or marks. At the beginning of Mass, we have the

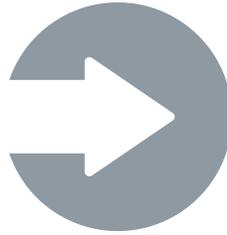
commemoration of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem with the blessing of palms and then later, we have a lengthy reading of the Gospel connected with Jesus' passion. Both tell us what is special about this day. Our main attention is drawn to Jesus' entrance into the holy city of Jerusalem. We are given three different forms of this commemoration of the Lord's entrance.

We imitate the cross as we wave the palm branches and sing "hosanna to the Son of David!" Why do we do this and why bother with palms? The answer goes back to how we pray. We pray with our bodies and senses and we use physical, tangible things, such as palm branches, to put us in mind of spiritual realities. The prayers used to bless the palms make this clear: "Sanctify these branches with your blessing, that we, who follow Christ the King in exultation, may reach the eternal Jerusalem through him"; or, "that we, who today hold these branches to hail Christ in his triumph, may bear fruit for you by good works accomplished in him."

God bless, Deacon Frank

# STEWARDSHIP

SUPPORT  
ST. PAUL  
CHURCH:



**GIVE ONLINE**

Sign up for online giving through Parish Giving. Visit <http://bit.ly/3KYJraX>



**GENERAL OFFERTORY**

Drop your envelope in the basket or mail directly to the parish.

## GIVING MAR 20 - MAR 21

**\$23,530**  
Budget

**\$7,818**  
Identifiable Gifts (#154)

**\$1,317**  
Loose Cash

**\$11,052**  
Online Giving

**\$20,187**  
Total

## 2020-2021 YTD

**\$894,140**  
Budget

**\$377,645**  
Envelopes/Loose

**\$389,036**  
Online Giving

**\$766,681**  
Actual

**85.7%**

## 2019-2020 YTD

**\$894,140**  
Budget

**\$607,203**  
Envelopes/Loose

**\$245,728**  
Online Giving

**\$852,931**  
Actual

**95.4%**

## SPECIAL COLLECTION

Diocesan Assessment  
**\$1,202**  
Thank you for your generosity!

## ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

On behalf of Bishop O'Connell, thank you to the many who have already made a gift to our 2021 Annual Catholic Appeal. Early indications are very encouraging and we hope this positive momentum continues. Our generous parishioners have pledged **\$111,676** towards our parish goal of **\$140,000** from **167 donors**. If you have not yet made a gift, please consider supporting our diocese by choosing a ministry to support. To donate online, please visit [dioceseoftrenton.org/catholicappeal](http://dioceseoftrenton.org/catholicappeal) or contact the parish office. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

**YOUR GIFT MATTERS!**

# PARISH LIFE

## WEEKLY HOLY HOUR

### OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Our parish is pleased to offer a **weekly Holy Hour of Adoration** from 7:00am until 8:00am on Saturday mornings. Come spend some time with our Eucharistic Lord!

---

## DAILY ROSARY

### MONDAY-SATURDAY @9:00AM VIA ZOOM

Each morning, we gather virtually to pray the rosary together. All are welcome to join us at 9:00am. [Join us](#) or visit the parish website for a link!

---

## LECTIO DIVINA

### TUESDAYS @7:30PM VIA ZOOM

Lectio Divina is the practice of praying with scripture; it combines reading the text in its context, listening to phrases that speak out to us, meditating on the text, and engaging with God in prayer over it. Through the richness of God's Word, we are calmed, refreshed, and strengthened. Join us for an hour of praying with scripture every Tuesday from 7:30-8:30pm. No prior practice is necessary. The group is meeting online. **For more info, email Claire: [cgmachl@gmail.com](mailto:cgmachl@gmail.com)**

---

## WINTER BIBLE STUDY

### WEDNESDAYS @11:00AM VIA ZOOM

### THURSDAYS @7:30PM VIA ZOOM

This winter the St. Paul Bible Study Program will read and discuss The Acts of the Apostles. Meetings are available Wednesdays 11:00am-12:30pm or Thursdays from 7:30pm-9:00pm. All meetings will be via Zoom. The meetings consist of a twenty-five minute video lecture by a biblical scholar followed by open discussion. **For more information or to register please contact Chuck Balestri: [cbalestri1@gmail.com](mailto:cbalestri1@gmail.com) or 609-921-0279.**

## CAPACITY CHANGES

### FROM GOVERNOR MURPHY

Effective February 22, 2021, Governor Murphy has raised the in-Church occupancy limit to 50% with all other pandemic protocols remaining in place (required wearing of masks and social distancing; ventilation as much as possible; sanitization of churches between Masses; no commonly shared materials)

Please note: Due to our Church's interior layout and the necessity for continued social distancing, our weekend Mass attendance will not increase at this time. Please continue to **make a reservation to ensure your spot** at our weekend Masses.

At present, our new guidelines are:

Weekend Masses: Unaffected

Daily Masses: 125 people

Weddings: 125 people

Funerals: 125 people

Baptisms: 30 people per family (may be up to four families per Baptism)

---

## LOAVES AND FISHES

### SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 18 - JUNE 19, 2021

Our parish's Loaves & Fishes ministry will again serve more than 400 meals on Saturday, June 19, 2020 at St. Mary's Cathedral in Trenton, NJ, to the homeless and poor of the Trenton area. Because of the pandemic, the meal is served take-out style only and volunteering is fully socially distanced.

Help is needed both on Saturday at the Cathedral to prep, pack, and clean up, and also on Friday, June 18, at St. Paul's, to help with drive-through donation drop-off and transporting material to the Cathedral.

Please save the date now and look for future announcements in the bulletin. With questions, contact Claire ([cgmachl@gmail.com](mailto:cgmachl@gmail.com)).

Thank you to all for your patience while our new parish and school websites take full effect. If you encounter any issues, please email Kait ([kmayer@stpaulsofprinceton.org](mailto:kmayer@stpaulsofprinceton.org))

# HOLY WEEK

APRIL  
01

## HOLY THURSDAY

9:00AM

MORNING PRAYER

7:30PM

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER\*

*No morning Mass*

APRIL  
02

## GOOD FRIDAY

*Day of Fasting & Abstinence*

9:00AM

MORNING PRAYER

3:00PM

PASSION OF THE LORD\*

7:00PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS\*

*No morning Mass*

APRIL  
03

## HOLY SATURDAY

9:00AM

MORNING PRAYER &  
BLESSING OF THE EASTER FOOD

8:00PM

EASTER VIGIL IN THE HOLY NIGHT\*

*No morning Mass*

APRIL  
04

## EASTER SUNDAY

8:30AM

EASTER DAY MASSES\*  
IN ENGLISH

10:00AM

11:30AM

1:00PM

MISA EN ESPANOL\*

*No evening Mass*

## LENTEN CONFESSIONS

### THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU

By participating in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, whether our first time in days, weeks, months or years, we are experiencing God's individual and unwavering love for us, and one of the true graces made available to us by our Catholic faith. God loves us just the way we are, but he loves us too much to leave us that way.

This Lent, our parish is making confession more available by "leaving the light on" on **Wednesdays during March** (remaining: 3/31) from **7:00pm-9:00pm**.

Confession will continue to be available on **Saturdays at 4:00pm** as well (*except on Holy Saturday, April 3*).

We hope you'll come partake in God's great mercy!

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

### FRIDAYS AT 7:00PM

Our parish family invites you to join us in person or via livestream for **Stations of the Cross each Friday in Lent at 7:00pm**.

*Reservations are required for bilingual Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, April 2. Please see the parish website*

*Due to COVID restrictions, there will be no soup and salad dinner offered beforehand.*

For those who do not wish to join us in person, you may view the livestream at 7:00pm.

Additionally, we will provide a new setting of Stations of the Cross via **video each Friday at 3:00pm**.

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

### PLEASE SEE THE SCHEDULE TO THE RIGHT

All Masses and serves marked with \* require advance registration. Please visit the parish website to make your reservations. Some Easter Masses will have additional room available.

# ST. PAUL SCHOOL

## A MESSAGE FROM MRS. KIM CLAUSS

Thank you so much to all who attended our 33th Annual Shamrock Gala last Saturday evening! Although this was the second year we had to “go virtual”, the evening proved to be a wonderful time. Getting to “see” so many families via Zoom and getting in on the excitement of the raffles was a true joy for both Mrs. Rooney and for me. As I said in my remarks on Saturday, I truly do miss the “real” Gala event and look forward to a time when we can gather in such a way again.



A very special “thank you” to our amazing PTA team who worked tirelessly to pull off an excellent event. For many of us, the Shamrock Gala is a one-night event of festivities. For our PTA team, it is a months-long endeavor of gathering auction items, seeking sponsors, organizing every detail imaginable. I am personally so grateful to Janice, EmmaLee, and Pam for their incredible dedication to our St. Paul School family. Thank you, ladies!

On Monday, we announced that the week after Easter break will be a virtual week for all learners. This decision was made in light of the rising cases in all of our sending districts and in consultation with our school nurse, Ms. Palumbo, and our School Board Chair, Mrs. Truslow. While I understand that this is a change in plans from what we had hoped for and a disappointing change at that, we came to this decision with the health and safety of our students and faculty at the forefront of our minds.

Report cards were available to all families last week. As the weather warms and the sun peeks out more often, I’m filled with a renewed sense of hope as we wrap up March!

God bless,  
Kim Clauss



## SCHOOL STAFF

**MRS. KIM O. CLAUSS** PRINCIPAL  
kclauss@spsprinceton.org

**MRS. SHANNON ROONEY** VICE PRINCIPAL  
srooney@spsprinceton.org

**MRS. MICHELE CANO** ADMISSION/ADVANCEMENT  
mcano@spsprinceton.org

**MRS. KAREN DELLEFAVE** ADMIN. ASSISTANT  
kdellefave@spsprinceton.org

**MRS. LIZ TRUSLOW** SCHOOL BOARD CHAIRPERSON  
spsboardchair@gmail.com

**MRS. JANICE HUTCHINSON** PTA PRESIDENT  
spsjanice@gmail.com

## CONNECT WITH US

 **WEBSITE**  
spsprinceton.org

 **FACEBOOK**  
facebook.com/spsprinceton

 **INSTAGRAM**  
@spsprinceton

## PHONE NUMBERS

**SCHOOL OFFICE** 609-921-7587  
**SCHOOL FAX** 609-921-0264

## SAVE THE DATE!

### BOB CRONIN MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING

Save the date now for the 25th Anniversary Bob Cronin Memorial Golf Outing! Thursday, May 27, 2021 at Mountain View Golf Course. Register online at [spsprinceton.org/golfouting](https://spsprinceton.org/golfouting)

# FAITH FORMATION

## A MESSAGE FROM MR. JOHN MCGUIRE

This week we commemorate Palm Sunday. On this day, Jesus entered Jerusalem in anticipation of the holy feast of Passover. Our Lord knew that He was entering into that city to make a great sacrifice for us all. I imagine that Jesus would have likely taken the time to consider His brief ministry. Perhaps He considered all those had ministered to, hoping that He had done all that He could.

This Lent we've been on a journey of our own. Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving we've prepared ourselves to enter Jerusalem for Holy Week. We can consider what we've done, reflect on what we've failed to do, give thanks for the ways we've grown, and seek forgiveness for the opportunities that we have missed. Ultimately, we seek to grow closer to Jesus as we accompany Him into the city.

This week let's pray that we can learn from this year's journey through Lent, that we can embrace all that we have done well and turn away from the ways that we have fallen short, so that we can fully embrace the joy of Easter for the whole season. Have a blessed Holy Week and a joyful Easter Season.

God bless!

## 8TH GRADE: CONFIRMATION PREPARATIONS FOR CONFIRMATION

All students registered for Confirmation should have access to the Greater Retreat experience and should be well on their way to completion. If you have yet to register for or begin Greater, you will need to choose the 2-Day retreat option to complete the retreat before Confirmation. If you have yet to complete the Candidate Sponsor/ Form from the Confirmation Page of the Parish website, you must do so immediately.

If you have any further questions, please reach out to the Office of Religious Education at [jmcmguire@stpaulsofprinceton.org](mailto:jmcmguire@stpaulsofprinceton.org).



### Make the faith come alive for your family during Holy Week.

- Pray an [Our Father](#) each day.
- Have you returned to Mass during COVID-19? If not, consider watching this [Story of Hope](#) to hear the experiences of those around the diocese.
- Your family can make a [spiritual communion](#) when attending a [virtual Mass](#).
- [Palm Sunday](#) is Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> and begins [Holy Week](#).
- The [Easter season](#) begins with the Vigil Mass on Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> and lasts through Pentecost Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Pray the [Regina Caeli](#) each day during Easter.
- Read [Bishop O'Connell's Easter message](#).

### HOLY WEEK 2021 Liturgical Readings

To prepare for Mass, read the Gospel before you attend. Following Mass, discuss the question posted below with your family.

**Palm Sunday-March 28** Take some time to reflect on this key passage in today's reading. "Jesus said, 'Amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me...' (the disciples responded) 'Surely it is not I?'" Describe how you respond to this passage.

**Holy Thursday-April 1** Jesus asks his disciples, "Do you realize what I have done for you?" How would you answer Him?

**Good Friday-April 2** Are we mere spectators to the events of Good Friday or are we active participants? If yes, where do you stand, outside with Peter, at the foot of the cross with Mary, or among the crowd? Explain why?

**Easter Sunday-April 4** Similar to the first disciples, we are not entirely courageous and faithful witnesses to the Risen Christ. "Simon Peter...went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there...the other disciple also went in, and he saw and believed". What have you seen that helps you see the Risen Christ? What would you need to see to believe? Take this time to tell Jesus about it. He is waiting for this moment.

The readings of the day can be found on the [United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Website](#).

### Any Plans for Holy Week?

**Young Adults**  
Young people between the ages 18 and 39 are part of the young adult community and experience a variety of life stages. [Learn More >](#)

**Newly Married**  
Two people coming together to form something completely new - a brand new family where one didn't exist before. [Learn More >](#)

**Families with Young Children**  
Becoming parents for the first time - a tremendous blessing but also a tremendous challenge. This is for parents with children who are between 0-5 years old. [Learn More >](#)

**Families School-Aged Children**  
Catholic families with school-aged children (6-12 years old) a diverse group, but all have the same basic goal - to form loving, caring relationships and provide a solid foundation for children so they can reach their full human potential. [Learn More >](#)

**Families with Adolescents**  
Parents of teenagers (13-18 years old) who are dealing with so many pressures to raise purpose-driven, faith-filled kids. [Learn More >](#)

**Single/Married Adults**  
Single adults or those who are married with no kids at home. Many parents have launched children and are entering into the "empty-nest" stage. [Learn More >](#)

**Golden Years**  
Singles or couples in their golden years who've embraced their vocational calling and are now called to adjust to such changes as retirement, financial challenges, health issues, losing independence, and end-of-life issues. [Learn More >](#)

The Diocese of Trenton is here to support you and your family. Resources for families can be found on our webpage: [dioceseoftrenton.org](http://dioceseoftrenton.org) [www.dioceseoftrenton.org](http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org)

## GIVE YOUR TIME & TALENT

### PLANNING FOR 2021-2022

We are already planning for next year! Here are some ways to support our program:

- Catechist for Summer Academy
- Catechist for our program beginning in the fall
- Prayer team to support our students & families
- Creative/strategic thinkers (help us structure the program in a way that will meet our families' needs)

Because of our limitations due to COVID-19, we are hopeful to offer a hybrid model for many of our programs next year. This would require volunteers who are comfortable both with in-person teaching and with using digital platforms (such as Zoom, Google Meet, etc.). Please pray about whether you may be called to this specific form of ministry.

If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact [jmcmguire@stpaulsofprinceton.org](mailto:jmcmguire@stpaulsofprinceton.org) so that we can take note and keep you in the loop (and begin your clearance process)!

# PASTORAL HISPANA

## SANTO ROSARIO

7:30 pm—lunes, jueves, viernes y sabado por Zoom (en linea).

## REFLEXIÓN ESPIRITUAL

### PARA LOS CATEQUISTAS

**Los lunes a las 8:30pm** por Zoom (en linea). Favor de comunicarse con Sara Cortes al 609-450-5558 para instrucciones de como integrarse a las video llamadas por Zoom y los horarios.

## FORMED.ORG

Es un instrumento online para fortalecer nuestra fe católica. En esta pagina encontraras todos los recursos necesarios para la catequesis, espiritualidad familiar, evangelización y vida sacramental. Solo regístrate

## A TODOS LOS PARROQUIANOS

Es bueno seguir observando todas las orientaciones practicas y medidas preventivas dadas por nuestro obispo David con el fin protegernos en salud y en la convivencia con los otros, **para ello es bueno ir a nuestra pagina electrónica de San Pablo para conocer en detalle todas las medidas ofrecidas.** Visítanos a [www.stpaulsoprinceton.org](http://www.stpaulsoprinceton.org)

## AYUDA CON TRADUCCIÓN

Si alguien necesita ayuda de traducción con algún documento oficiales **por favor contactar a Victoria Pena, trabajadora social, a su correo electrónico [victoriapc2@live.com](mailto:victoriapc2@live.com)** o dejar la información pertinente en la oficina con el Padre Miguel. Igualmente el Sr. Joel Martinez esta dispuesto en colaborar dentro de esta area, **su correo electrónico es [22joelmartinez@gmail.com](mailto:22joelmartinez@gmail.com)**

## GRUPO MANHATTAN:

Servicios completamente gratuitos para todos aquellos que desean salir del mundo de la droga o ayudar a un amigo o familiar que este en esta dura situación. Interesados en obtener mas información **favor comunicarse al 718-507-7459.**

## REFLEXIÓN DEL EVANGELIO

El primer evangelio de este domingo narra la entrada de Jesus en Jerusalem aclamado por la gente. Jesus entra en la ciudad como un Mesias humilde, sobre un animal prestado, no como un guerrero glorioso a caballo. Entra sin ostentacion militar, ya que su proposito es cumplir los designios de Dios en su pasion. Esta Semana Santa sera bueno ir meditando sobre la conducta de los personajes de la pasion, y en sus paralelos que hay en nuestros tiempos: Hay gente que ante las situaciones dificiles y comprometidas, se lava las manos como Pilatos, por no decidirse y comprometerse, contribuye a que inocentes sigan sufriendo. Otros, como Judas, estan dispuestos a vender sus valores y hasta su conciencia para hacer dinero. Algunos, como Pedro, siguen negando su fe y sus amistades por cobardia y por miedo. Hay algunos quienes, como Herodes, por ser superficiales, se burlan del dolor ajeno y de todo lo mas sagrado. Algunos siguen siendo como Caifas y los fariseos, ciegos de envidia y de odio homicida, que sin respeto a los mandamientos de Dios, hacen dano a los que odian. Hay quienes son como las mujeres de Jerusalem que lloran y se lamentan pero se sienten impotentes para hacer nada y remediar las situaciones de injusticia. Hay tambien hoy Cireneos y Veronicas que hacen lo poco que pueden y se compadecen y ayudan a los que sufren. Hay, por fin, algunos quienes como Maria y el Discipulo amado, saben acompañar a los que sufren en los momentos mas dificiles hasta el final.

¡Lleve FORMED a donde vaya!

Es más fácil que nunca disfrutar su suscripción a FORMED con nuestra nueva aplicación, o en la página web de su buscador móvil.

FORMED, una revolucionaria plataforma en línea, le ofrece acceso al mejor contenido católico en audio, películas, libros electrónicos y programas de estudio en video de presentadores como el Augustine Institute, Ignatius Press, Catholic Answers, Sophia Institute Press y el St. Paul Center. ¡Todo al alcance de sus manos!

Aprenda más en [app.formed.org](http://app.formed.org)  
**FORMED** LA FE CATÓLICA. UN DEMAND.



"BEHOLD, I AM WITH  
YOU ALWAYS"  
MATTHEW 28:20

# A PASTORAL LETTER ON THE PRESENCE OF GOD

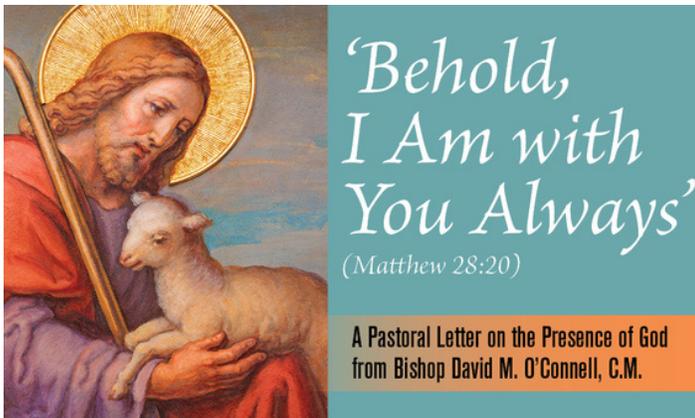
## BISHOP ISSUES PASTORAL LETTER ON THE PRESENCE OF GOD

As the pandemic passes the one-year mark and continues to stretch into 2021, a profound side-effect has emerged: **isolation**.

The experience not only leaves people separated from each other through illness, social distancing and quarantining, but often leaves them, "wondering where God is," writes Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M., in his new release: "Behold, I Am with You Always,' A Pastoral Letter on the Presence of God." The title of the letter is taken from the Gospel of Matthew 28:20, which reads, "And behold, I am with you always, until the end of time." Formally issued Feb. 22, 2021 on the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter, the pastoral letter was published March 1 across diocesan media as a written text and podcast in both English and Spanish.

In this, his third pastoral letter as 10th Bishop of Trenton, Bishop O'Connell addresses the painful reality of separation and loneliness, offering guidance to the faithful for developing the assurance of faith and recovering a sense of the presence of God.

The Bishop also remembers those for whom "social distancing has been their way of life for a long time and not by choice: "... The poor, the outcast, the bullied, the marginalized, those living alone, 'quarantined' for whatever the reason. Social distance and isolation are sentences imposed by society upon them, without parole. ... We must not forget them."



READ BISHOP O'CONNELL'S  
PASTORAL LETTER  
ONLINE



LISTEN TO A PODCAST  
OF THE PASTORAL  
LETTER



LEER LA CARTA PASTORAL  
DEL OBISPO O'CONNELL  
EN LÍNEA



ESCUCHA UN  
PODCAST DE LA  
CARTA PASTORAL







