

May 3, 2020

Saint John the Evangelist - Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church

On the Corner of East 55th Street and First Avenue

Reverend Monsignor Douglas J. Mathers, JD, JCD, Pastor

Reverend Wilfred Y. Dodo, Parochial Vicar

Parish House: 348 East 55th Street - New York, New York 10022

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Jesus our Divine Teacher and Risen Lord.

Sunday Masses

7:30, 9:00 and 10:30am

12 Noon and 5:30pm

Saturday Vigil at 5:30pm

Monday thru Friday Masses

7:00 and 8:15am

12:10 and 5:30pm

Saturday Masses

8:15am and 12:10pm

Sacrament of Penance

Monday thru Friday:

11:30am to 12 Noon

5:00 to 5:25pm

Saturday:

11:30am to 12 Noon

4:30 to 5:25pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Friday

8:45am to Noon

12:45 to 5:00pm

Benediction: 5:00pm

Baptisms and Marriages

By appointment

Visitation of the Sick

Upon request

Miraculous Medal Novena

Monday:

Following the 12:10 and 5:30pm

Masses

Rosary

Monday and Wednesday:

Following the 5:30pm Mass

Parish House Office Hours

Monday thru Friday:

9:00am to 12 Noon

1:00pm to 5:00pm

Music Director

Kathleen Martin

Choir Rehearsal:

Tuesday at 7:00pm (*September thru June*)

Wheelchair Accessible

Entrance on 1011 First Avenue



NEW PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS WELCOME

Prayer to Our Lady Undoer of Knots



Holy Mary, full of God's presence during the days of your life, you accepted with full humility the Father's will, and the Devil was never capable to tie you around with his confusion.

Once with your son you interceded for our difficulties, and, full of kindness and patience you gave us example of how to untie the knots of our life. And by remaining forever Our Mother, you put in order, and make more clear the ties that link us to the Lord.

Holy Mother, Mother of God, and our Mother, to you, who untie with motherly heart the knots of our life, we pray to you to receive in your hands (the name of person), and to free him/her of the knots and confusion with which our enemy attacks.

Through your grace, your intercession, and your example, deliver us from all evil, Our Lady, and untie the knots that prevent us from being united with God, so that we, free from sin and error, may find Him in all things, may have our hearts placed in Him, and may serve Him always in our brothers and sisters. Amen

The Sanctuary Lamp



The Sanctuary Lamp near our Tabernacle burns this week
In Loving Memory of

HELEN R. ESPOSITO

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION



If you are unable to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, you can make an Act of Spiritual Communion.

First, tell Jesus how much you want to receive Him. Tell Him that you want to draw closer to Him, and make Him part of everything you do in daily life.

Next, express your love for Jesus by offering a prayer or Act of Spiritual Communion that invites Him to come spiritually into your heart and soul and life. One of the most popular Acts of Spiritual Communion, written by St. Alphonsus Ligouri, is printed below.

"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You Sacramentally, come at least Spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from You."

Prayer Requests

FOR OUR SICK: MARIE MACCHIA, SABRINA BERTUCCI, GEORGE FUENTES AND THOSE SUFFERING FROM COVID-19.

FOR OUR DECEASED: MARIO BORINI, REV. JAMES P. CONNOLLY, ANTHONY PICCILLO

Please call the Parish House to have a Parishioner's name placed on this list. Check to see if someone who is ill consents to having their name published. We only publish the names of recently deceased.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

2020 DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

N/A

2019 DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

\$6,517

THANK YOU! WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THOSE WHO USE OUR ENVELOPE SYSTEM. LET US KNOW IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE OFFERING ENVELOPES THROUGH THE MAIL.

THE SEASON OF NEW LIFE IN CHRIST



EASTER, the central feast of our Catholic Faith, is also a difficult mystery to grasp: even the disciples didn't believe it at first.

Many of them had trouble even recognizing the Risen Lord.

The fifty days of the EASTER SEASON allow you to concentrate in a personal way on the mystery of the Resurrection and Christ's continued presence with you through the Holy Spirit.

The Resurrection narratives in the Gospel readings on the SUNDAYS OF EASTER help you to understand the meaning of the Resurrection. Other readings emphasize the importance of Christ's continued presence with us.

ASCENSION THURSDAY celebrated forty days after Easter, reminds you that although Jesus has left us physically, He remains with you always through the power of the Holy Spirit.

PENTECOST completes the Easter Season with the descent of the Holy Spirit. The Church, born of the Spirit, will now be the presence of Christ on earth until He comes again.

Our Lady—Undoer of Knots

(In May, the Month of Mary, I am happy to comply with parishioner requests to reprint the following article.)



My Dear Parishioners:

In 1986, when Pope Francis was studying for a doctorate in Germany, he visited the Church of St. Peter am Perlach in Augsburg. He saw a painting in the Church of Our Lady untying the knots in a white ribbon, and was inspired by the story behind it. That story took place in 1612, and concerns the marriage of a couple named Wolfgang and Sophie. They were miserable, unhappy and on the brink of divorce. Nevertheless, they met with a priest at St. Peter's, Father Jakob Rem, to try to save their marriage. At their last meeting, Wolfgang gave the priest his wedding ribbon. In those days, it was the custom to tie the right hands of a bride and groom together with a red ribbon as they stood before God's altar on their wedding day. This ribbon symbolized the unbreakable bond of their Catholic marriage. Father Rem lifted up the couple's red wedding ribbon to an image of Our Lady and, while untying the knots in it, he prayed: "I raise up the bond of marriage, that all knots in it be loosened and resolved." While Father prayed, the unknotted ribbon miraculously became bright white. This was a sign that, through Our Lady's powerful intercession, Wolfgang and Sophie's marriage would be saved!

Devotion to Our Lady as the "Undoer of Knots" is relatively recent. It's only been around for about thirty years. When he was Archbishop of Buenos Aires, Pope Francis was instrumental in bringing this devotion out of obscurity and popularizing it Argentina. From there, the devotion spread to Brazil and it is now expanding throughout the entire Catholic world.

*When Pope Francis consecrated the world to Mary, the Mother of God in October 2013, he said: "Mary's faith unties the knot of sin (cf. *Lumen Gentium*, 56). What does that mean? The "knot of disobedience", the "knot of unbelief".*

When children disobey their parents, it can be said that a little "knot" is created. This happens when the child acts with awareness of what he or she is doing, especially if there is a lie involved. At that moment, they break trust with their parents. How often does this happen! Then the relationship with their parents needs to be purified of this fault; the child has to ask for forgiveness so that harmony and peace can be restored.

Something of the same sort happens in our relationship with God. When we do not listen to Him, when we do not follow His will, we do concrete things that demonstrate our lack of trust in Him—for all this is what sin is—a kind of spiritual knot is created deep within us. These knots take away our peace and serenity. They are dangerous, since many such knots can form a tangle, which gets more and more painful and difficult to undo.

But nothing is impossible for God's mercy! Even the most tangled knots are loosened by His grace. And Mary, whose "yes" opened the door for God to undo the knot of ancient disobedience, is the Mother who patiently and lovingly brings us to God, so that He can untangle the knots of our soul by His Fatherly mercy."

What are some of the knots in your life that cause you difficulty or pain? Are you willing to bring those knots to Mary and let her help you untie them?

*Sincerely in Christ,
Monsignor Douglas J. Mathers*