

Corpus Christi Parish

Father Paul M., C.S.T., Pastor

Office Hours: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

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THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT



5th Sunday of Lent

Beautiful message from Bill Gates

Subject: *What is the Corona/ Covid-19 Virus Really Teaching Us? whether that is what we perceive as being good or being bad. As I I'm a strong believer that there is a spiritual purpose behind everything that happens, meditate upon this. I want to share with you what I feel the Corona/ Covid-19 virus is really doing to us:

1) It is reminding us that we are all equal, regardless of our culture, religion, occupation, financial situation or how famous we are. This disease treats us all equally, perhaps we should to.

2) It is reminding us that we are all connected and something that affects one person has an effect on another. It is reminding us that the false borders that we have put up have little value as this virus does not need a passport. It is reminding us, by oppressing us for a short time, of those in this world whose whole life is spent in oppression.

3) It is reminding us of how precious our health is and how we have moved to neglect it through eating nutrient poor manufactured food and drinking water that is contaminated with chemicals upon chemicals. If we don't look after our health, we will, of course, get sick.

4) It is reminding us of the shortness of life and of what is most important for us to do, which is to help each other, especially those who are old or sick. Our purpose is not to buy toilet roll.

5) It is reminding us of how materialistic our society has become and how, when in times of difficulty, we remember that it's the essentials that we need (food, water, medicine) as opposed to the luxuries that we sometimes unnecessarily give value to.

6) It is reminding us of how important our family and home life is and how much we have neglected this. It is forcing us back into our houses so we can rebuild them into our home and to strengthen our family unit.

7) It is reminding us that our true work is not our job, that is what we do, not what we were created to do. Our true work is to look after each other, to protect each other and to be of benefit to one another.

8) It is reminding us to keep our egos in check. It is reminding us that no matter how great we think we are or how great others think we are, a virus can bring our world to a standstill.

9) It is reminding us that the power of freewill is in our hands. We can choose to cooperate and help each other, to share, to give, to help and to support each other or we can choose to be selfish, to hoard, to look after only our self. Indeed, it is difficulties that bring out our true colors.

10) It is reminding us that we can be patient, or we can panic. We can either understand that this type of situation has happened many times before in history and will pass, or we can panic and see it as the end of the world and, consequently, cause ourselves more harm than good.

11) It is reminding us that this can either be an end or a new beginning. This can be a time of reflection and understanding, where we learn from our mistakes, or it can be the start of a cycle which will continue until we finally learn the lesson we are meant to.

12) It is reminding us that this Earth is sick. It is reminding us that we need to look at the rate of deforestation just as urgently as we look at the speed at which toilet rolls are disappearing off of shelves. We are sick because our home is sick.

13) It is reminding us that after every difficulty, there is always ease. Life is cyclical, and this is just a phase in this great cycle. We do not need to panic; this too shall pass.

14) Whereas many see the Corona/ Covid-19 virus as a great disaster, I prefer to see it as a *great corrector*
It is sent to remind us of the important lessons that we seem to have forgotten and it is up to us if we will learn them or not.

"Out of depth I cry to you, O Lord, hear my voice! O let your ears attentive to the voice of my pleading". (responsorial psalm). What an agonizing cry from the depth of pain! It was the cry of Jesus in His agony. It was the cry of Martha and Mary when they found that their brother was seriously ill. It has been the cry of the suffering men and women throughout the history. And it is our own cry when we are going through a global pandemic to take thousands or even millions of lives.

Today's gospel narrates the death and the raising of Lazarus. In the tomb Lazarus is completely tied up: lifeless in the tomb with a stone in front, and the smell of decay inside. When Jesus came near the tomb of Lazarus, and asked to take away the stone, Martha objected, "Lord, by this time, there will be a stench, for he has been dead four days." Jesus says, "take away the stone".

Roll away the stone, unbind him and let him go." We also protest – "don't roll the stone away. Leave things as they are. Smell will be unbearable. It is too awful to bring to light." We want to bury them under the stone. There are so many dark areas in our private lives where we are buried in the tomb of selfishness, filled with negative feelings such as worry, fear, resentment, hatred, and guilt. Jesus asks us today to seek his help and that of the community around us to loosen those chains and come out of tombs of our own creation. This is good news for the person who has lived an empty, meaningless life, "Lazarus, come out!"

How could you let this happen? Martha basically says to Jesus in today's Gospel passage. "...if you had been here, my brother would not have died." These days we often ask, if you truly cared about me and my family, you would have done something to stop this Coronavirus. Why God allows a global pandemic to take thousands or even millions of lives. If the illness itself associated with the virus were not enough to worry us, we cannot ignore the economic devastation which the spread of the virus has caused, with its grievous effects on individuals and families, and those who





**Scripture Readings
For the Week**

Monday 2020: March 30, 2020
Daniel 13: 41-62, John 8: 1-11

Tuesday, March 31, 2020
Numbers 21: 4-9, John 8: 21-30

Wednesday, April 1, 2020
Daniel 3: 14-20 91-21, 95, John 8: 31-42

Thursday, April 2, 2020
Genesis 17: 3-9, John 8: 51-59

Friday, April 3, 2020
Jeremiah 20: 10-13, John 10: 31-42

Saturday, April 4, 2020
Ezekiel 37: 21-28, John 11: 45-56

Sunday, April 5, 2020 FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT.
Isaiah 50: 4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Matthew 26: 14-27:66



Mass Intentions
FOR THE WEEK

Monday, March 30, 2020
Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Becker (A)

Tuesday, March 31, 2020
Ann Visnic

Wednesday, April 1, 2020
Isidora Pereira

Thursday, April 2
John "Pud" Moyle

Friday April 3 2020
Rich Lencyk

Saturday April ,2020
Michael Davis

Sunday, April 5, 2020
Holly Schreyer



The Sanctuary Candle is lit this week in loving memory of:

Clarence Pagendarm

Message from Most Rev. Mark Brennan

As we continue through Lent during these uncertain times, we yearn to be with our parish communities. Closed churches, cancelled confirmations, private burials and postponed special events makes it seem like we are separated from Christ. However, as we celebrate the Eucharist each day for our people, we can be closer than ever to our flock in spiritual solidarity.

Plans for Holy Week are at the forefront of our minds. When considering Governor Jim Justice's call for a "shelter in place" across West Virginia, I find it appropriate at this time to extend our cancellation of public celebrations and gatherings through at least the end of Holy Week. The Catholic Church must do its part to help stop or curtail the spread of the COVID-19 virus and to protect our parishioners, clergy and religious.

I also draw your attention to the Holy See's liturgical guidelines for Holy week. As I previously communicated to you last week, we will not distribute palms on or around Palm Sunday under any circumstances; the risk to our faithful is too great. The Chrism Masses will be postponed. Please use the sacred oils that you currently use until the Chrism Mass is rescheduled. If you have a limited supply, please work with your local Vicar Forane to share amongst your neighboring parish communities. Please note that the Pastoral Care of the Sick contains provisions for the ad hoc blessing of the Oil of the Sick if necessary, and the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults does the same for the blessing of the Oil of the Catechumens should a priest need more of those oils.

The Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday should be celebrated but without a congregation. The Vatican has stated: "The faculty to celebrate Mass on this day in a suitable place, without the people, is granted in an exceptional manner to all priests." The washing of the feet is to be omitted; at the end of the Mass, the procession with the Blessed Sacrament to the place of repose is to be omitted and the Blessed Sacrament is to be kept in the tabernacle.

On Good Friday, the Priest will celebrate the Passion of the Lord but without a congregation. In the Universal Prayer, a special intention for the sick, the dead, and for those who feel lost or dismayed is to be added. Sample wording for this intention will be provided by the diocesan Office of Worship and Sacraments.

For the Easter Vigil, the preparation and lighting of the fire is omitted; the paschal candle is lit, the procession with the candle is omitted and the Exsultet follows. The priest may either chant it or recite it. The Liturgy of the Word then takes place as usual. It has been decided that NO INITIATION SACRAMENTS will take place at the Easter Vigil. Catechumens and candidates should be notified as soon as possible that rather than celebrating the Sacraments of Initiation during the Easter Vigil we are hopeful that these rites can be celebrated sometime in the near future. It would be much more meaningful to welcome new members in the midst of the assembly. More information will be communicated once we are able to celebrate public Masses again.

Special Prayer Intentions



Betty Baker, Karen Burger, Connie Caldwell, Linda Carroll, Sarah Czapp, LeeAnn Dusch Dorn, Patricia Fedorke, Lucy Fornal, Bill Grob, Judy Harrison, Cindy Becker Larry & Debbie Hundagen, Gary Johnson, Tom Lash, Abby McGowan, Ron Mauck, Mele Mistovich, and Sheila Pascoli

- ◆ for our women and men and their families who serve in our military.
 - ◆ and all of those who are confined to home and nursing homes and on our prayer chain.
- Due to privacy concerns we cannot publish names of sick and/or hospitalized without the permission of the individual or their*

MESSAGE REGARDING COLLECTIONS AND THE CONTINUED NEED FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

All the churches in the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston are cancelling services because of the Coronavirus. As you know, we are relying on the Sunday collection to pay bills such as the electric, telephone, water, insurance, the salary for the staff, the pastor's salary etc. When there are no church services especially over a period of weeks, the church suffers a great financial burden. There is little or no money coming in, and the still the same amount going out. If you are able to still send your weekly contribution, you can either mail it to- 1508 Warwood Ave, Wheeling, WV 26003- or personally bring in to our office. These are stressful times for all of us and I'm sure we are all doing some extra praying. Please make sure your church will survive the effects of the virus as well and keep giving to your church.

God Bless you all,
Kathy Tucker-Cupp
Business Manager Corpus Christi Parish/School

**The Parish Office is only open Mon, Wed, Friday
from 10:00am to 1:00pm
Please mail donations if possible. Thank you**