



5th Sunday of Lent March 29nd, 2020

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Reconciliation/confession Please call the office to make an appointment.

CLOSURE: Please note that the churches are now closed to the public. Meetings and programs are cancelled until further notice!

OFFICE HOURS: The office is closed to the public, if you need assistant feel free to call and we will help you any way we can.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: If then you remain constant in your faith in the face of trial, the Lord will give you peace and rest for a time in this world, and forever in the next.
-St. Jerome Emiliani

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH FUNERALS: The Bishop has told us that funerals will be done without mass for the time being. The rite of committal at the cemetery can take place as usual. No more than five people are allowed to attend and a memorial mass can be done at a later date.

CONTACT YOUR MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT!
New Euthanasia Legislation Introduced in Canada
Legislation that would expand access to euthanasia in our country has been introduced by the federal government. Among the alarming changes are amendments to expand euthanasia to those without a terminal illness, including those with disabilities. Only 30 per cent of Canadians have access to quality palliative care which would

significantly reduce the number of people wanting to end their lives. Every life has value - visit www.helptheliving.ca to send a letter (prepared for you) to your Member of Parliament. The process takes less than 5 minutes. More information can also be found at: www.archtoronto.org/euthanasia. We continue to pray and advocate for the vulnerable among us.

REFLECTION: Let us Go and Die with Him

So, Thomas, called Didymus, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go to die with him." [John 11:16](#) What a great line! The context is important to understand. Thomas said this after Jesus told His Apostles that He was going up to Jerusalem because Lazarus, His friend, was ill and close to death. In fact, as the story unfolds, Lazarus actually did die before Jesus arrived at his house. Of course, we know the end of the story that Lazarus was raised up by Jesus. But the Apostles tried to keep Jesus from going to Jerusalem because they knew there were many who had been quite hostile toward Him and wanted to kill Him. But Jesus decided to go anyway. It was in this context that St. Thomas said to the others, "Let us also go and die with him." Again, what a great line!

It's a great line because Thomas appeared to say this with a certain resolve to accept whatever was waiting for them in Jerusalem. He appeared to know that Jesus was going to be met with resistance and persecution. And he also appeared to be ready to face that persecution and death with Jesus.

Of course, Thomas is well known to be the doubter. After Jesus' death and Resurrection, he refused to accept that the other Apostles actually saw Jesus. But even though he is well known for his act of doubting, we should not miss the courage and resolve he had in that moment. At that moment, he was willing to go with Jesus to face His persecution and death. And he was even willing to face death himself. Even though he ultimately fled when Jesus was arrested, it's believed that he eventually went as a missionary to India where he did ultimately suffer martyrdom.

This passage should help us to reflect upon our own willingness to go forth with Jesus to face any persecution that may await us. Being a Christian requires courage. We will be different than others. We will not fit in with the culture around

us. And when we refuse to conform to the day and age we live in, we will most likely suffer some form of persecution as a result. Are you ready for that? Are you willing to endure this?

We also must learn from St. Thomas that, even if we do fail, we can start again. Thomas was willing, but then he fled at the sight of persecution. He ended up doubting, but in the end, he courageously lived out his conviction to go and die with Jesus. It's not so much how many times we fail; rather, it's how we finish the race.

Reflect, today, upon the resolve in the heart of St. Thomas and use it as a meditation upon your own resolve. Do not worry if you fail in this resolve, you can always get up and try again. Reflect also upon the final resolution St. Thomas made when he did die a martyr. Make the choice to follow his example and you, too, will be counted among the saints of Heaven.

Lord, I desire to follow You wherever You lead. Give me a firm resolve to walk in Your ways and to imitate the courage of St. Thomas. When I fail, help me to get back up and resolve again. I love You, dear Lord, help me to love You with my life. Jesus, I trust in You.
-My Catholic Life

SUPPORTING YOUR PARISH FINANCIALLY: During this difficult time, I ask that you continue to support our Parish financially. If you want you can drop donations off at the office during office hours. Please knock on the door to be served. We are also setting up an account on line to which you can donate to. More information to follow in the coming week.



Our sympathy is extended to the family and friends of
Barbara Helen Mallet
Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her.

PRAYER FOR THOSE SICK AND SUFFERING FROM THE COVID-19: O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.
- Pope Francis

Lord God,

I pray for all who have become sick or died by the coronavirus that has been spreading around the world.

In your mercy and compassion, deliver us from this disease,

In your holy wisdom, guide all who are working to contain the outbreak,

In your steadfast love, bring healing to all your children who have become sick,

Welcome into your arms the ones that died, Comfort the ones they left behind.

In faith, I place my trust in you.

In hope, I turn to you in my time of need.

In love, I give glory to your name.

In gratitude, I will praise you with my life.

In your Son's name I pray.

Amen.