March 29th, 2020

Reconciliation: 4:15PM – 4:45PM
1st Saturday of the Month

Anointing of the Sick:
2nd Full Weekend of the Month
Following Each Mass

All Other Sacraments:
Please call the Parish Office
Preparation can take six months or more

Mass Schedule
All Masses have been cancelled until further notice due to health risks related to COVID-19.
This includes Holy Week and Easter Services. Please check our website for updated information on how you can view these services remotely.
Even though we say that we believe, there is a part of us that doesn't. There are many times in our lives when we experience death, whether it be the physical death of someone we love, a failed relationship, the loss of a job, or a broken dream. As we are going through these death experiences, we can easily find ourselves reaching out to God to make it better and fix it! We think that the proper order of life is to maintain the things of this world, especially those things that are essential to our sense of well-being and security. We do not like change. The grieving that comes from our death experiences can keep us stuck and in despair. If we have lost something or someone of great value, the very meaning and essence of life is lost with them. We need gentle companions to lift us from despair and that is precisely who God desires to be in our life as well.

God calls us out of our tombs, where we have been closed up in fear and despair, and shouts, “Come out!” He desperately wants to show us the path to hope and the new life that is possible after loss and death. But our faith can be weak, and we still prefer to cling to the memory of what we had rather than the joyful possibilities of tomorrow. We sometimes live as if God is not real and that the transformative power of His resurrected presence is a story found in the Bible rather than a narrative unfolding in our lives.

God is the God of surprises, not our demise. God opens new possibilities, begins new chapters, creates new verses, and brings us to new heights! We spend so much time and energy ruminating over what we left behind yesterday that we are far too tired to see what can unfold tomorrow. Loving someone new doesn't negate our past loves. Embracing the love of a person, God, or life itself tomorrow doesn't diminish the love of yesterday. Each of our loves is different, and one cannot be replaced by another. They don't cancel each other out. God truly has tended to every detail of our lives, and if we listen to each detail, we find that they all lead us back to Him. Jesus wants us to come out of our closed-up tombs. Are we going to listen this time?
Weekly Events

Sunday, March 29th
No Meetings Scheduled
Monday, March 30th
No Meetings Scheduled
Tuesday, March 31st
No Meetings Scheduled
Wednesday, April 1st
No Meetings Scheduled
Thursday, April 2nd
No Meetings Scheduled
Friday, April 3rd
No Meetings Scheduled
Saturday, April 4th
No Meetings Scheduled
Sunday, April 5th – Palm Sunday
No Meetings Scheduled

Committees: The Committee Chairs will be determining whether to cancel your meeting or hold it remotely.

Monthly Maintenance Collection
Next weekend, April 4th/5th, we would normally have our separate Monthly Collection to replenish our parish Maintenance Fund. Since we are not having Mass, please consider mailing in your donation to the parish instead. Since inception, this separate collection has provided critical monetary resources for repairing and improving our parish’s buildings and grounds. If you can’t contribute to this important program next weekend, you can put a “Maintenance Needs” envelope in the collection basket at any other weekend mass. Thank you for your continuing support.

55+ Social Club
Our next meeting May 12th will be our baby shower for the Christ Child Society. These new born size items; 36 inch square blankets, baby bottles, diapers, bibs, etc. will be so appreciated by the new mothers. All Parish Members may contribute to this worthwhile cause.

Earth Stewardship Ministry
Earth stewardship includes conserving fresh water. Although 71% of the earth is water, only 2.5% of that is fresh water. Our Great Lakes account for 25% of the world’s fresh water! Don’t let water run down the drain while shaving or brushing your teeth. Save “warm up” water in a pitcher for plants, cooking, filling your bird bath, etc. Washing clothes in cold water (proven to be just as effective) also saves “warm up” water, plus the energy and greenhouse gas emissions to heat it. Fix toilets and faucets when they begin to leak. A single drip per second wastes 3,000 gallons a year – enough for 180 showers!

Attention Liturgical Ministers:
Sign-up sheets for Servers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Greeters, and Ushers for May through August were available in the sacristy. If you haven’t already signed up on the sheets in the sacristy in person, please email your Mass preferences and special requests to Mari Pavleje at mpavleje@milwpc.com by Sunday, April 5th.

If you do not indicate any preferences, we will schedule you as needed at Mass. Schedules will be ready the following weekend and will be emailed to you by your ministry coordinator.

If you are interested in joining one of the ministries, please contact Heather in the Parish Office. Questions? Contact: Kathy Hubrich – Altar Server Coordinator at (414) 839-2669; Ann Maher – Lector Coordinator at (414) 453-4437; Linda Okruhlica – EM Coordinator at (414) 778-1459; Dave Chudy – Usher Coordinator at (414) 453-5574; Sue Kolesari – Greeter Coordinator at (262) 787-9097; or Mari Pavleje – Scheduler at (414) 545-2733.

Catechesis Corner
• There will be NO Religious Education classes this weekend. Please use the Catechesis lessons that have been sent for home-schooling and watch for the special emails that assist with the instruction. Questions: contact Dr. Jean Marie Weber at: jmweber@sttheresemke.org
• We enter the Fifth Sunday of Lent! Our Lenten practices have taken on new meaning as we fast from seeing friends and family who live apart from us; as we pray for safety and protection for our health and a cure for COVID-19; and practice Almsgiving for those so in need brought on by this crisis in the world. Pray the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Glory be…along with one of the Creeds that join us with the local and global Church.
Safety Talk – Poison Control
When accidents happen with chemicals or medicine, call Poison Help at 1-800-222-1222. Get help right away from a nurse, pharmacist, or other poison expert. If someone has trouble breathing, call 911 or your local emergency ambulance number right away. A poison is anything that can harm someone if it is:

- Used in the wrong way
- Used by the wrong person
- Used in the wrong amount

Some poisons may be harmful if they come into direct contact with your eyes or skin. Others may be toxic if you breathe them or swallow them. Poisons can come in four forms: solids (such as pain medicine pills or tablets), liquids (such as household cleaners, including bleach), sprays (such as spray cleaners), and gases (such as carbon monoxide, or CO).

Most consumer products are safe if label directions are followed, but some can be poisonous if used incorrectly. Use personal protective gear when handling potential poisons mask, respirator, eye wear, gloves etc.

Medicines & Household Products
Keep all medicines, and potentially poisonous substances, in locked cabinets or out of the reach of children. Keep medicines in their original containers, properly labeled, and store them appropriately. Do not use food containers (such as cups or bottles) to store household cleaners and other chemicals or products.

Never share prescription medicines. If you are taking more than one drug at a time, check with your healthcare provider, pharmacist, or call the toll-free Poison Help line (1-800-222-1222), which connects you to your local poison center, to find out more about possible drug interactions.

Keep all laundry products locked up, high, and out of the reach of children. Keep antifreeze and all chemicals and household products in their original containers. Never mix household or chemical products together. Doing so can create a dangerous gas.

Carbon Monoxide (CO)
Have a working carbon monoxide detector in your home. The best places for a CO detector near bedrooms and close to furnaces.

School and Art Supplies
Some art products are mixtures of chemicals. They can be dangerous if not used correctly. Make sure children use art products safely by reading and following directions. Do not eat or drink while using art products. Wash skin after contact with art products. Wipe tables, desks, and counters. Keep art products in their original containers.

Food
Wash hands and counters before preparing all food. Store food at the proper temperatures. Refrigerated foods should not be left out at temperatures above 40 degrees F (5 degrees C). Use clean utensils for cooking and serving.

Animals and insects
Know what poisonous snakes live in your area and wear proper attire (boots, etc) when hiking outdoors. Check the label on any insect repellent. Be aware that most contain DEET, which can be poisonous in large quantities.

Plants, mushrooms and berries
Be sure that everyone in your family can identify poisonous mushrooms and plants. Remember when it comes to poison ivy, “leaves of three, let it be.”

2 Cincinnati Drug and Poison Information Center (DPIC)
Kringle & Cheesecake Fundraiser

Just a reminder that the kringles and cheesecakes you ordered will be delivered to the parish next Saturday, April 4th. Order will be available to pick up from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM in the lobby. Please be sure to pick up your order. Thank you!

Prayer During These Anxious Times

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake, may we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making the rent.

May we who have flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no option.

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those that have no place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.

We ask this through Jesus our Healer. Amen.

Prayer sent from our Franciscan Leaders

Lenten Alms Giving

Last year your Lenten alms and prayers made a lot of sick children feel just a bit better. This year we hope to continue by making Children’s Hospital’s Foundation the recipient of our Lenten alms and prayers. The Foundation buys toys, games, and art supplies for their patients. However you sacrifice for Lent, please keep CHF in mind. Lenten banks are by the exits and should be returned by April 19th. Checks should be made out to St. Therese with Lenten alms as the memo.

Lenten Observances for Fast and Abstinence

The Catholic Church asks each member to preserve the penitential character and purpose of Lent. For this reason:

- Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and each Friday of Lent.
- Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, in addition to abstaining from meat, should fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Hence, on those days they should eat only one full meal. Smaller quantities of food may be taken at two other meals, but no food should be consumed at other times during those two days. The obligation of fasting ceases with the celebration of one’s 59th birthday.
- Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from these prescribed minimal penitential practices.

A Stewardship Moment

Fifth Sunday of Lent – March 28th/29th

Jesus called to his friend from the dead, “Lazarus, come out!” It is the same call our Lord makes to us unceasingly: “Come out!” Jesus calls us from our tomb of doubt and unbelief, from the darkness of our fear and anxieties; from the depths of our weaknesses and lack of hope.

Christian stewards pray for an open heart so that they may hear the voice of the Lord, heed the continuous call to come away from their former way of living and reprioritize their lives in the light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Do we believe Christ has the power to transform our lives? Do we take time to listen for his call?