

May 3 & 10, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

It is already May, which means we have begun the Month of Mary! As Christians we should always desire to grow closer to our spiritual Mother, Mary; and the month of May is an especially a great time to grow closer to our mother in Heaven. I'd like to encourage you to spend more time with your spiritual mother this month. You can do this by reflecting on various passages in the bible where we hear about Mary. This can also help you reflect on her role as Jesus' mother, and her role as our spiritual mother. Here are just a few bible references of Mary to help you: *Luke 1:26-56, Luke 2:16-19, Luke 2:34-35, John 2:1-5, John 19:25-27, Acts 1:13-14*

The Angelus: Another prayer in connection to Mary, which centers on the Incarnation of Our Lord is called *The Angelus*. This is traditionally prayed three times per day; at 6am, at noon, and at 6pm. The local church / convent / monastery would ring their bells at those times to let people in the village/town or working out in the countryside know it was time to pray the Angelus (*side note: many places still have the bells ringing at those hours. Saint Sixte, the French parish across the street ring their bells every day at noon and 6pm. I'm guessing they don't also ring them at 6am because now-a-days the locals wouldn't appreciate loud bells at that time every morning!*). The people would stop what they were doing when they heard the bells ringing out, and pray this simple yet beautiful prayer, and then continue on with whatever they were doing. There is a well-known painting called *The Angelus* by *Jean-Francois Millet* (google it!) which depicts a man and woman, standing in a crop field, with their tools to the side, heads bowed down in prayer, and a church off in the far distance. This was (and still is) a pious practice by Catholics to help unite their day, and all that fills it, to God through prayer. Try making this devotion part of your day, especially during the month of Mary! You might not be able to pray it at exactly 6am, noon, and 6pm, but try to tie it into several moments throughout your day. Before or after each meal for example. Here is The Angelus prayer:

*The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary,
And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
- Hail Mary, full of grace... etc.*

*Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
Be it done unto me according to Your Word.
- Hail Mary, full of grace... etc.*

*And the Word was made flesh,
And dwelt among us.
- Hail Mary, full of grace... etc.*

*Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ*

*Let us pray: Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into
our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Thy Son,
was made known by the message of an angel, may by His
Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection,
through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen*

The Rosary: Now, it wouldn't be the Month of Mary without an extra special focus on the Rosary! If you are not doing it already, pray the rosary every day. Especially make the effort to pray the Rosary with your family if possible. The Rosary is a very powerful prayer, and it goes without saying, given the situation we are living in with the pandemic, the Rosary is all the more an essential part of our daily prayers these difficult days. I once mentioned the following quote in a past homily, but I'd like to share it again with you. These words by Sister Lucy (one of the three children who had the visions of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Fatima) are especially timely for us today:

"The Most Holy Virgin, in these last times in which we live, has given a new efficacy to the recitation of the rosary to such an extent that there is no problem, no matter how difficult it is, whether temporal or above all spiritual, in the personal life of each one of us, of our families ... that cannot be solved by the Rosary. There is no problem, I tell you, no matter how difficult it is, that we cannot resolve by the prayer of the Holy Rosary." - Sister Lucy of Fatima

Our Lady of Fatima, pray for us!

NOTICE:

To prevent the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus, the Quebec Bishops have decided that **all public Masses, and all activities / events / classes / meetings are to be suspended** until the Quebec Bishops permit us to resume the usual parish activities.

Even though our Masses and activities are suspended, our expenses remain at around the same level. Many have been hit by the economic impact of this pandemic. For those who are able to still help support the parish, your contributions are most appreciated.

As the situation evolves, and information changes you can remain informed via a webpage set up by the Archdiocese of Montreal, where they will post updates and info, regarding the actions taken by the Archdiocese, in response to the coronavirus as things unfold: <https://www.diocesemontreal.org/en/covid-19>

During these difficult days be assured of my prayers for you, and together let us pray for all those effected by this virus, and for its swift end! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to e-mail me: fatherjpiper@gmail.com

To note for those who have mass intentions booked; although the masses will not be publically celebrated, be assured that I will be celebrating a mass for each intention on the scheduled day of the intention

ANNOUNCED MASSES
May 2 - May 17, 2020

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Saturday | May 2nd | Saint Athanasius Celine Borges and Eugene Rodrigues Marino – RIP – by Anne Marie |
| Saturday | May 2nd | Sunday Vigil In Thanksgiving to the Immaculate Heart of Mary |
| Sunday | May 3rd | Fourth Sunday of Easter Abilio Carvajal and Gilbert Lynes – RIP – by Mercedes and family <i>Pro Populo</i> |
| Monday | May 4th | NO MASS |
| Tuesday | May 5th | Saint Judith of Prussia Thanksgiving by Josee Crodua |
| Wednesday | May 6th | Saint Francois de Laval In Thanksgiving to the Holy Family – by the Ferraro family |
| Thursday | May 7th | Saint Stanislaus of Cracow Allan Snow – RIP by Dolores Quinn and Penny |
| Friday | May 8th | Blessed Catherine of Saint Augustine Helen Coleman – RIP – by Joan |
| Saturday | May 9th | Sunday Vigil Elvira Durinzi – RIP – by her daughter |
| Sunday | May 10th | Fifth Sunday of Easter Saverimuttu – RIP – by Julia and family <i>Pro Populo</i> |
| Monday | May 11th | NO MASS |
| Tuesday | May 12th | Saint Leopold Mandic Pierre Artozoul – RIP – by his friends |
| Wednesday | May 13th | OUR LADY OF FATIMA Deceased Members of the Tait and Piper families – RIP – by Linda Piper |
| Thursday | May 14th | Saint Matthias Nereus Rodrigues, John George and Basil de Souza – RIP – by Anne Marie |
| Friday | May 15th | Saint Isidore the Farmer Glean Victor – RIP – by the family |
| Saturday | May 16th | Sunday Vigil Pelagia Gaudencio and Norberto Arao-arao – RIP – by the family |
| Sunday | May 17th | Sixth Sunday of Easter Monique Viel – RIP – by the family <i>Pro Populo</i> |

The MEMORARE

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen

SAINTLY PRAYER: by St. Teresa of Avila

Let nothing disturb you
Let nothing frighten you
All things are passing
God never changes
Patience obtains all things
Who possesses God lacks nothing
God alone suffices.
Amen.

PRAYER

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us.
Bring a swift end to this coronavirus.
Heal the afflicted, comfort the fearful,
and have mercy on those whom you have been called from this life.
Amen.
Our Lady of Fatima; pray for us!

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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.
Amen.