

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 22, 2020

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Pierce City, Mo. 65723
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Pastor: Fr. Matt Rehrauer 476-2827
PCP: Cody Washam 489-5450
DRE: Martha Randall 489-4589
Principal: Jason Kramer 476-2824
St. Mary's School 476-2824

SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR MARCH 21st – MARCH 29th

ST. MARY'S

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+ Bill Miller
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion Service
Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	Justice & Peace
Friday	8:15 a.m.	For the Sick
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+ Dale Parrigon Birthday Remembrance
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family

ST. AGNES

Tuesday	8:30 a.m.
Thursday	8:30 a.m.
Sunday	10:30 a.m.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

Sunday, March 22	Special Collection: The Catholic Relief Services
	NO Lenten Penance Service here at St. Mary's
Monday, March 23	NO Lenten Penance Service in Monett
Wednesday, March 25	NO St. Mary's School Board Meeting
Friday, March 27	NO Stations of the Cross
	NO Fish Fry

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, March 30	NO Rosary and Communion Service
Wednesday, April 1	NO Mass
	NO 7:30p.m. Mass
	NO Knights of Columbus Meeting at 8:00 p.m.
Friday, April 3	NO Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m.
	Fish Fry 5-7 p.m. Adults \$8 Kids \$3 (ages 6-12) 5 & under free. Sponsored by the St. Mary's Home & School
Sunday, April 5	65 and Over Dinner Cancelled due to the threats of viruses

YOUR GIFT TO GOD LAST WEEK: Collection Counters in April: Tim & Patty Osterloh
Our weekly budget is \$7,800.00 Last Week's Collection: \$ 4270.00

The Mirror: We have received the bill for The Mirror subscriptions from the diocese and it is for 200 subscriptions at \$14 each. Our bill is \$ 2800.00. At this time 76 Families have paid for their subscription to The Mirror. Thank you. If you have not paid yet there is still time. **The Diocese strongly recommends that every family receive The Mirror. We ask that everyone pay for their subscription so that the church does not have to pick up that expense. We are still short \$1738.00 Thank You.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

INFORMATION FROM THE DIOCESE: Concerning the directives from the diocese on the COVID-19 Virus you may visit their webpage at www.dioscg.org or visit their Facebook page Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau

PICNIC PLANNING FOR JUNE 2020 ---33RD YEAR ---ARE UNDERWAY!!! Plans have begun for our 2020 Old Fashioned Church Picnic which will be held on Sunday, June 7, 2020. We are asking for donations towards raffle prizes by April 1st to have raffle tickets printed in time for presale. Cash or items are welcome! Make monetary donations with a check payable to St. Mary's. If you would like to donate, please call the rectory at 417-476-2827, Mellanie Carder at 417-737-2812, or Frances Boman at 417-693-0174 and we can arrange to pick up. Donations can also be mailed or taken to the parish rectory. We are always looking for ideas and ways to add to the picnic so, if you have any –please share!
We want the day to be full of fun, family activities so parishioners can enjoy the day visiting with family and friends from our parish family and surrounding communities. Thank you for the hard work and dedication in years past and we're looking forward to having another great picnic this year!!!

PCCW NEWS: If you have not paid your PCCW dues of \$5.00 please do so as soon as possible. Thank you.
The PCCW has served three funeral dinners recently. Circles 4, 5, and 6 have served these dinners. If you are on one of these circles please submit your donation as soon as possible. The families we serve are always so appreciative of the dinners. Thank you.

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

Preschool and Pre-K registration for the 2020-2021 school year is now open. Current St. Mary's School families and St. Mary's Parishioners have priority until March 27th. Call or come by the office to get a registration form.

We have set a date for the students art show for Saturday, May 2nd. This year we are making this a big St. Mary's Showcase event. We will have craft vendors, food trucks, a petting zoo, and an obstacle race alongside the students artwork on display in the gym. Mark your calendar to make sure to join us on the 2nd for this event.

APPOINTMENTS

If you are unable to make your appointment, please find a replacement

Saturday, March 28th 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Beverly Miller, Madeline Ceselski

E.M.: Cathy Brown, Lora Saffer, Richard Ceselski

Servers: Aiden Kirch, Cameron Kirch, Brock Kramer

Ushers: Kalem Parrigon, Bill Seufert, Michael Abramovitz, Terrance Campbell

Sunday, March 29th 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Vince Witt, Cody Washam

E.M.: Dale Jasumback, Jerri Jasumback, Randy Witt, Julie Witt

Servers: Dane Gibbs, Brock Flehmer, Max Brown

Ushers: Dale Jasumback, David Elbert, Darren Brown, Ian Brottlund





St. Mary's Catholic Church

My Dear Parishioners,

March 22, 2020

As we know, the response to the Corona Virus outbreak in our country and throughout the world has brought about a recommendations that are unprecedented in recent history. In order to stem the spread of the Virus, public health officials have called for Social Distancing. In response to this, the vast majority of Bishops in the United States, as well as throughout the world have issued guidelines designed to limit contact that could lead to a spread of the virus. Among the guidelines is the suspension of public Masses. The decision to do so is a very serious and painful option. The implications for our Spiritual health and unity are uppermost in my mind and prayers. That being said, there are practical concerns as well.

You probably have noticed that I do not talk about money much, except when asking for donations to the Diocesan Development Fund.. I have always been of the mind that to do so borders on not trusting in the providence of God, and demeans the generosity of those who give out the desire to support the work of the Church. I know that everyone who gives is doing what they can, and I greatly appreciate the Charitable spirit in which that is done. All that said, here is a practical aspect that follows from the current situation. I really wish there was a way to put this without being crass, but there just isn't. Hopefully, a joking observation made by Fr. Bill Hodgeson, whom I think is one of the funniest guys I have ever met, (take that for what it is worth), concerning when one was so late for Mass that he/she did not fulfill the obligation. Fr. Bill's bit follows.

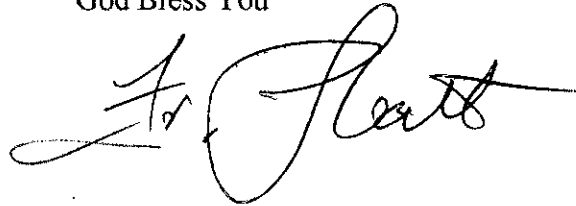
We all know that the Church teaches us that, if we get to Mass before the reading of Gospel, we have fulfilled our obligation to attend Mass. I wonder if that shouldn't be changed to, if you get there after the collection, you missed Mass. You can always go home and read your Bible, but we can never get that collection back! Of course Fr. Bill was just being his brilliant comic self. Who could have imagined that his joke from twenty years ago would ever relate to anything in the future? The reality is this. The parish is for the greatest part dependent on the charity of the parishioners. The ordinary means of receiving your charity has been through the collection at Mass. For the time being, that is not available to us. I am asking that, in your charity, we all find a way to continue monetary support of the operation of the Parish. The vast majority of the expenses involved are not affected by the suspending of Public Masses.

Please consider mailing a check to the office with your weekly offering during this time. If you generally donate cash, as do I, it is not the best idea to send cash through the mail. It is my habit to donate using a money order when I use the mail. That way, I can remain anonymous. If this is what you would wish to do instead of taking the risk of sending cash through the mail, I would

greatly appreciate it. There is also the option of dropping by the Rectory and doing so in person. We will be looking into an option for giving online or by direct deposit. That will take a little time though. Please be patient with that.

Know that, although social distancing is the rule of the day, I continue to be available, and want to encourage you to give me a call, stop by the Rectory if there is any need with which I can be of assistance. If you can't get to me, I'll get to you! The separation that is deemed necessary for a time is an almost unbearable sharing in Christ's crucifixion for me as a Priest. There is almost nothing worse than saying Mass without my people. I know that it is just as much a suffering for all as well. The only way that I can make any sense of this is to see it as a sharing in the Passion of Christ. There is horrendous suffering and dying in this. Please remember to stay one in prayer, united in Christ, and we will Rise with him. As I altogether too often mention in sermon: The Resurrection is not only the hope for the future in the fullness of the Kingdom of Heaven in the Glorious Resurrection of our bodies, it is the reality of our daily life as we await the return of the Lord and the day of judgement.

God Bless You

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fr. Scott". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed text "God Bless You".

In keeping with the directive issued by the Bishop, please remember that, during this time of Social Distancing being observed as precaution against the spread of the Corona Virus, the church will be open on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning for those who wish to pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament, which is in the Tabernacle. Although there are to be no public Masses, Fr. Matt will be offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass privately, offering his personal intention, as always, for those who are listed in the bulletin. Please remember to stay united in prayer and one another, with Christ present in the Blessed Sacrament.

When making an Act of Spiritual Communion, please remember to your God given gifts of memory and your imagination to put yourself Spiritually in front of the Tabernacle when making the Act. It is also important that one make an Act of Contrition before the Spiritual Communion, so as to be more properly disposed to receive the grace of that Act. Below are the Perfect Act of Contrition, as well as the Act of Spiritual Communion written by St. Alphonsus Ligouri.

ACT OF CONTRITION

O MY GOD, I AM HEARTILY SORRY FOR HAVING OFFENDED YOU, AND I DETEST ALL MY SINS BECAUSE OF YOUR JUST PUNISHMENTS, BUT MOST OF ALL, BECAUSE THEY HAVE OFFENDED YOU, MY GOD, WHO ARE ALL GOOD AND WORTHY OF ALL MY LOVE. I FIRMLY INTEND, WITH THE HELP OF YOUR GRACE, TO SIN NO MORE AND TO AVOID NEAR OCCASION OF SIN. AMEN.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (BY ST. ALPHONUS LIGOURI, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH)

MY JESUS, I BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE TRULY PRESENT IN THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT. I LOVE YOU ABOVE ALL THINGS, AND I DESIRE TO RECEIVE YOU INTO MY SOUL. SINCE I CANNOT NOW 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 LET ME BE SEPARATED FROM YOU.. AMEN