

St. Mary and St. Joan Of Arc Weekly Intentions & Reflection

(March 29 – April 5)

Hello fellow parishioners of St. Mary and St. Joan,

As we continue to be challenged by the coronavirus, I wanted to send you the Mass intentions and a reflection to ponder each week until we can resume our communal celebration of the Eucharistic. If you have an email address, please send it to njenkins@evdio.org so we can send this electronically to as many as possible to reduce our postage costs. If you do not have an email address, we will continue to send this out via snail mail. If you want to continue tithing, you may go to the [diocesan site](#) to donate electronically (see attached for instructions) or mail your donation to St. Mary Catholic Church; P.O. Box 506; Sullivan, IN 47882.

If you need someone to go to the grocery store for you, please call the parish office and leave a message (staffing is limited at this time) and we'll get with you to arrange a shopper to get your grocery list and payment to deliver groceries to you. We welcome your calls to let us know you and your families are doing well and staying healthy. If you or your family need emergency sacramental care, please call me at (812) 512-0997

*Yours in Christ,
Fr. John*

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK (March 29 – April 5)

Saturday, March 28 – 5th Sunday of Lent

StJ – Bill Watson

StM – Members of St Mary & St Joan

Sunday, March 29 – 5th Sunday of Lent

StM – Steve Godfrey

Monday, March 30– No Mass/No Intention

Tuesday, March 31 – Lenten Weekday

StM – Martha & Jack Reed Family

Wednesday, Arpil 1– Lenten Weekday

StM – Abby Walker

Thursday, Arpil 2– St. Francis of Paolo

StM – Evelyn Hawley

Friday, Arpil 3 – First Friday

StM – Arnold Kuester

Saturday, Arpil 4 – Palm Sunday

StJ – Tom Stefanski

StM – Martha Walker

Sunday, Arpil 5 – Palm Sunday

StM – Becky Kremp

Church Support – March 22nd

St. Joan of Arc: Regular \$245, Easter Flowers \$30

St. Mary: Regular \$176, Comm. Kitchen \$225, Easter Flowers \$20

A Prayer for the Week

Lord Jesus,
You traveled through towns and villages
curing every disease and illness among the people.

At your command, the sick were made well.
Come to our aid now in this health crisis so that we may
know your healing love.

Heal those who are sick:
may they regain their health and strength.
Heal us from our fear,
which prevents us from helping one another.
Heal us from our pride,
which makes us certain of our health and life apart from
you.

Bless health care professionals with strength and
compassion as they selflessly respond to our needs.

We make this prayer in your strong and holy name,
You, who with the Father and Spirit,
live and reign for ever and ever.

Amen.

PSALM 130

WITH THE LORD THERE IS MERCY AND FULLNESS OF REDEMPTION

REFLECTION

Greetings from the rectory! Don't we revel in our routine? Don't we relish the precise nature with which we keep a schedule? We don't even consider if it's mundane...we just do it...because it needs to be done. We may even treat God like that, scheduled between this and that or not conflicting with the other. And so how do we accept and adopt change with a heart of flesh and not a heart of stone?

Recently we have been restricted in our public celebration of Mass. The Sacraments are the communal nature of God's great love for humanity and our love of God, neighbor, and self. Our hearts long for the true presence and we believe in the power of the grace we receive in the Sacraments.

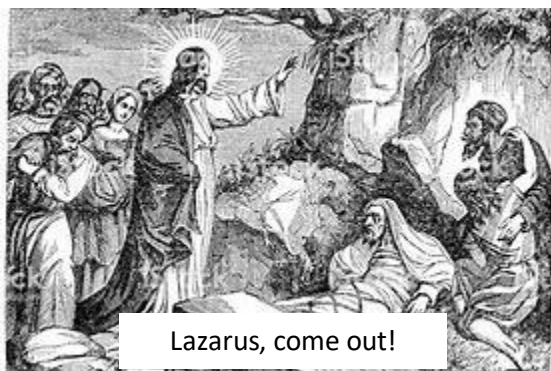
Add to that the grief and loss we feel when we don't see our Church friends. I don't need to mention worries either; there are more than this page might hold. Complications. Ramifications.

But there is also great hope. This may be the most meaningful and most memorable Lent, we might ever remember. Our repentance is real! Our penance is upon us! We wring our hands and rend our hearts in contrition: for our sins, the sins of humanity, the sins of the Nation, the sins of priests and bishops and religious, sins against the Immaculate Conception, and Sins against natural and Divine Law, that is, sins against God. We pray for all who have lost their way. But that's not us!

For our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. We will double down with prayer...and fasting...and alms-giving. We will support the funding of the Church buildings and our workers, asking for nothing in return. We will feed the poor. This is love in its **purest** form, the love of Christ.

This period without Mass is our walk in the wilderness, our wandering in the desert, our weight of the Cross as we stumble. We can allow this trial and tribulation to turn us from the mercy and forgiveness of God, or we can run back to our home, Mother Church, when it's over. Like the prodigal son, our Father will welcome us with open arms.

Fr. John



Sunday, March 29

Reading 1 - *Ezekiel 37:12-14*

Responsorial Psalm – *Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8*

Reading 2 - *Romans 8:8-11*

Gospel - *John 11:1-45*

**I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will never die**