

The Fifth Sunday of Lent, March 29th, 2020

# The Church of Saint Charles

409 North Third Street  
Bagport, Minnesota 55003

## Remember in Your Prayers

ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE CORONAVIRUS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

Compassionate and Loving Father,

In the face of confusion and concern  
impart to us the calm of Your presence.

In You allow us to find hope and healing.

Be with those who serve the sick and  
give them Your caring hands.

Be with those who lead and give them  
Your spirit of wisdom.

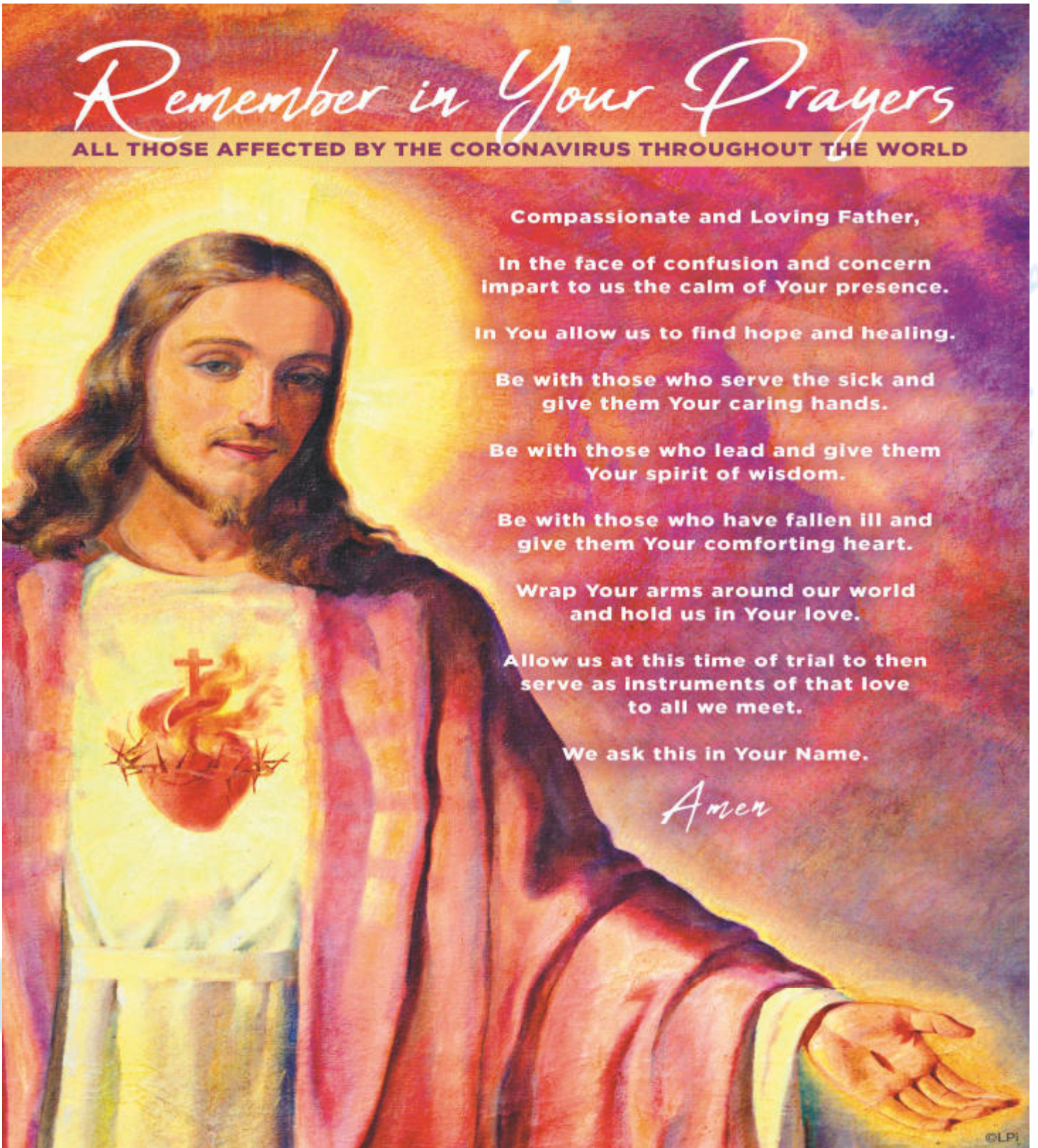
Be with those who have fallen ill and  
give them Your comforting heart.

Wrap Your arms around our world  
and hold us in Your love.

Allow us at this time of trial to then  
serve as instruments of that love  
to all we meet.

We ask this in Your Name.

*Amen*



**PASTOR'S COLUMN**  
**Father Mark Joppa**

**“Resist Him, Solid In Your Faith!”**

It happened a few years ago, but I will never forget a visit to my office from a man who knew his time on earth was short; he had terminal cancer and God was near. An older man but still working in his successful business, he had a weathered face, rugged/tough guy appearance. I mention this because guys like this don't like to be vulnerable, show weakness and definitely not talk about what they are afraid of.

Yet he trusted me to share what he was afraid of and I knew I was on holy ground because he was going to tell me something intimate. “I am afraid of two things 1. God and 2. The beast inside of me.” While I told him about God's love in point number one, point number two was expressed with such conviction that I knew that 1. He fought many times with this beast and 2. The beast was formidable.

When I was in Costa Rica in January, one highlight was walking through a rainforest with a local guide. We walked across many hanging bridges which allowed us to look below and above the forest looking for wild-life. There was a (harmless) snake in the tree that he spotted and one-by-one asked us as we got near, “Do you see it?” He had to point it out to me because I couldn't see it although it wasn't more than 20 feet away! Snakes are well hidden. When I think of beasts that the man was referring to, I think of snakes. I think of the Devil.

This should cause us healthy fear; to “stay sober and alert. Your opponent the devil is prowling like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, solid in your faith.” (1 Peter 5: 8-9a) This is a prayer from the prayer book of priests. Priests recite this reading every Tuesday for night prayer.

Here is an excerpt from an article from an April 3, 2017 online article entitled “The Spirit of Python.” As the world fights to stave off a virus among us, I hope you don't forget another formidable adversary and address the beast in your own life. “Almost surely you have noted many forms in which the devil comes or at least depicted as. But the most famous is the snake.

This is the classic depiction. Why is that? Right off, of course, we think of where a snake resides. It is of the ground, the dirt, the earth or the trees. When we stray into brush, we can't see them. They are hidden; like sin. Some refer of the problems in life — on this earth — call the “spirit of python.” Why would evil be named specifically, in some cases, as a python?

It is among the most frightening of snakes, for what it does is squeeze its prey to death. It wraps around. It breaks bones. It suffocates and strangles. They can grow large. The record so far for a python is over twenty-six feet. So we are dealing with a formidable adversary, if we are dealing with the “spirit of the python.”

Despite its size, a python is hard to find. Although officials suspect there are thousands and possibly tens of thousands slithering wild in the Everglades, one recent campaign involving more than a thousand hunters turned up only 106.

It is the ultimate expert in lying in wait. It can operate in water as well as dry land. It can swallow whole. An actual python can devour a pig! It is large enough to hide other snakes under it. It will linger as long as it takes!”

Our Blessed Mother Mary is an expert at stomping on snakes. Flee to her intercession. The beast is no match for her. Bring your weaknesses and struggles to the foot of the cross relying on the power of Jesus. Resist him, solid in your faith!

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

*Readings for the Week of March 29th*

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14 / Rom 8:8-11 / Jn 11:1-45  
 Monday: Dn 13:41c-62 / Jn 8:1-11  
 Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9 / Jn 8:21-30  
 Weds: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95 / Jn 8:31-42  
 Thursday: Gn 17:3-9 / Jn 8:51-59  
 Friday: Jer 20:10-13 / Jn 10:31-42  
 Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/ Jn 11:45-56  
 Next  
 Sunday: Mt 21:1-11 / Phil 2:6-11 / Mt 26:14—  
 27:11-54

**PARISH SUPPORT  
 REGULAR WEEKEND COLLECTIONS  
 Saturday and Sunday  
 March 21st—March 22nd**

Saturday, March 21.....	4:30 pm	\$	0.00
Sunday, March 22.....	8:00 am	\$	0.00
	9:30 am	\$	0.00
Electronic Transfer		\$	563.00
Money Mailed In		\$	N/A
<b>Other Weekly Revenue</b>			
Candles, Masses, etc.		\$	N/A

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**MARCH 21st-22nd COLLECTIONS  
 COMPARED TO ANNUAL BUDGET**

<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Over / (Short)</u>
\$4,668	\$563	(\$4,105)

**Fiscal 2020 Year-to-Date Mass Collections**

<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Over / (Short)</u>
\$192,214	\$200,644	\$8,430

Please don't forget that during this temporary suspension of Mass celebrations our parish will still need your financial support. You can mail in your weekly envelopes with checks to St. Charles, or you can also use the large black mailbox which is near the parish office door. Thank you for remembering!

**The Church of Saint Charles  
 2020 LENT AND  
 EASTER SCHEDULE**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS  
 Suspended until further notice. Please  
 check the St. Charles website for online  
 opportunities to participate in Stations of  
 the Cross.**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

**Until further notice, the only time set  
 aside for the Sacrament of Reconciliation  
 (Confession) is Saturday from 3:00-4:00  
 pm.**

**And anytime by appointment**

**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

**Holy Thursday Service.....7:00 pm**  
**Good Friday Service.....3:00 pm**  
**Holy Saturday Easter Vigil...7:30 pm**  
**Easter Sunday Masses.....8:00 am**  
**9:30 am**

**This Easter, Remember Those In Need**

With all the difficulties, from illness to job loss in the news this Easter season, please don't forget those who really need a small bit of help — now more than ever. Our Valley Outreach donation box in the back of the church can be used to provide non-perishable food items for those who find themselves needing help. The church will be open during the normal Confession time 3:00 –4:00 pm on Saturday.

**SOME IMPORTANT PARISH CANCELLATION NOTICES**

As most parishioners and guests know by this time, it was necessary to cancel our Lenten Fish Fry. If you have purchased tickets for that event, please hold on to them for now. We will try to set up a **Fish Fry Is Back!** date later this spring, if at all possible. **Faith Formation** classes, **Eucharistic Adoration** days and **CCW** meetings have all been canceled until further notice.

The Church of Saint Charles  
409 North Third Street  
Bayport, Minnesota 55003

**Parish Business Office Hours: Monday  
Tuesday and Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 pm  
Please call in advance as office hours may  
be changed on certain days.**

**Voice:** 651-439-4511

**E-mail:** office@stcb.comcastbiz.net

**Fax:** 651-430-9717

**Parish Website:** www.stcharlesbayport.com

For after hours emergency, please call the parish office  
and listen for instructions for a pastoral emergency.

## **PARISH STAFF**

### **Pastor**

Father Mark Joppa      frjoppa@stcb.comcastbiz.net

### **Office Manager / Ministry Coordinator**

Laura Kuschel      laura@stcb.comcastbiz.net  
office@stcb.comcastbiz.net

## **PARISH LIFE**

### **Trustees**

Connie Carlson, Eric Zawislak

### **Finance Council**

Lisa Chute, Sara Durch, Harriet McPherson, Pete Miller,  
Tom Thueson

### **Adoration**

Joan Richert      651-439-1847

### **Prayer Chain**

Rita Heffron      651-439-3359

## **SACRAMENTAL LIFE**

### **Weekend Masses**

**Suspended until further  
notice**

See parish bulletin online for Mass viewing websites.

### **Daily Mass**

**Suspended until further  
notice**

### **Individual Reconciliation (Confession)**

**Saturday, 3:00 – 4:00 pm until further notice  
Anytime by appointment**

**Please contact the parish office to arrange for Bap-  
tism, Marriage or the Pastoral Care of the Sick.**

## **ST. CHARLES FAITH FORMATION**

**706-284-9512**

### **Faith Formation Director**

Stacy Robertson      sar4685@aol.com

## **ST. MICHAEL'S CEMETERY**

**651-439-4511      cemeterysmn@gmail.com**

Cemetery Manager: Claudia Baldwin

Cemetery Expansion Project Manager: Mary Kay Kolar



SUNDAY, MARCH 29th

*An Act of 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.*

**A VIRTUAL HOLY WEEK RETREAT IS  
BEING PLANNED BY THE ARCHDIOCESE**

In the event that the State of Minnesota's request that residents refrain from large gatherings continues through the middle of April to contain the spread of COVID-19, the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis is offering a virtual Holy Week retreat and inviting all to participate.

The week-long retreat – planned and organized by Bishop Andrew Cozzens – begins Palm Sunday (April 5) with Mass from the Saint Paul Seminary and culminates with the Easter Vigil Mass from the Cathedral of Saint Paul April 11.

Each day has two parts: Mass or prayer at 9 a.m. followed by directed Lectio Divina. The evening session will begin at 7 p.m. and consist of conferences from Archbishop Bernard Hebda, Bishop Cozzens, Father Charles Lachowitz and Father John Ubel. All of the events will be live streamed or recorded and available on the Archdiocese's website for all who would like to participate.

“Holy week is the most sacred time of the year for Catholics and this year it may be that most of us are confined to our homes,” Bishop Cozzens said, “It could be a great opportunity to enter into prayer and contemplation of the great mysteries of our faith. Each day of Holy Week we plan to offer an opportunity to enter more into the mystery of Christ's love and redemption. We will offer time to join in prayer, including the mysteries of the Sacred Triduum, as well as inspirational conferences.”

For details, check:

<https://www.archspm.org/holyweek>

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