Forth Sunday of Easter – May 3, 2020

FROM THE CATHOLIC BISHOPS OF OHIO, April 28, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Yesterday, 27 April 2020, Governor Mike DeWine presented a strategy to begin a multi-phased plan, even while the executive “Stay at Home Order” remains in place. His plan begins a process for Ohioans gradually to return to work and daily activity and provides hope and evidence that our cooperation with the governor’s orders has significantly curbed the spread of the virus. We thank you for and admire the patience, cooperation and understanding you have already shown during this COVID-19 pandemic. We realize the frustration, sadness, and loss the faithful felt not to be able to gather personally to celebrate the Paschal Mysteries during the Sacred Triduum and each Sunday.

During this time of sacrifice and longing, we have joined our prayers and hearts to yours, trusting that God will see us through this pandemic and reunite us at the Eucharistic Feast. Out of deep concern for the common good as well as the physical and spiritual well-being of all the people of Ohio, the Catholic Bishops of Ohio have agreed once again to cooperate with the governor, and to support and abide by the multi-phased approach to returning to work and eventual public gathering in large groups.

To that end, the Catholic Bishops of Ohio extend the temporary suspension of all publicly celebrated Masses/liturgies ending on May 29, with the hope of publicly celebrating together the Solemnity of Pentecost on the weekend of May 30/31. Each of the bishops of Ohio, once again, dispense the Catholic faithful who reside in their respective dioceses and all other Catholics currently in their territories from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass during this time. We ask for the cooperation and adherence of all the faithful to the governor’s directives during this period.

We will be working diligently with our pastoral teams to consider reasonable, gradual and responsible initiatives for welcoming back the faithful in time to Sunday Mass, initiatives which will renew our love for the Holy Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and which will help us to restore Catholic life and invite others to share that life after the pandemic. We encourage individual dioceses and their respective pastors and parishioners to begin to work to establish plans which respect social distancing and other requirements for the safety of our people.

This decision has not been taken lightly and, as your bishops, together with you, we recognize the sacrifice we are called to make being physically distanced from the Holy Eucharist and from one another. We remain grateful for your understanding and prayerful support. As your bishops we continue to encourage you to keep holy the Lord’s Day by participating in Sunday Mass by way of radio broadcast or televised or livestreamed options and making a spiritual communion. Keeping in mind of the gift of plenary indulgences offered to us by the Church, we encourage all the faithful to turn to the Church’s treasury of prayer, praying as a family or individually the Liturgy of the Hours, rosary, divine mercy chaplet, and Stations of the Cross, etc.

Together we continue to pray for all who are suffering from Covid19, for all health care workers and first responders, for all the deceased and their families, and for an easing of the anxiety and tension caused by this pandemic. Relying on the Motherly care of Our Lady, Health of the Sick, we unite our sufferings to those of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and we trust in the glorious hope of His Resurrection.
MASS INTENTIONS
Fr. Hilinski and Fr. Knapik will continue to offer private Masses for those intentions already scheduled.

INTENTIONS FOR THIS COMING WEEK Sunday-Sunday, May 3 to May 10

Fr. Hilinski will offer Masses for the following:
- † Bernice & † Bernard Cielec
- For the Parishioners
- † Frank & † Beatrice Lucek
- † Fr. Michael Dyrcz
- † Joe & † Sophie Romanowski
- † Eileen Therese Matiussi
- † Alice Chevraux
- Health & blessings for Deb & Family

Fr. Knapik will offer Masses for the following:
- † Jan & † Janina Zoladz
- † Frank & † Jozefa Marszalek, † Fr. Marian Marszalek
- & † Christine Bellar

PRAYER DURING THE CORONAVIRUS
Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas. We fly to you today as your beloved children. We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of your holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance. Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind. Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy.

Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, and help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.

Amen.

“Our churches may be closed, but Christ is not quarantined and his Gospel is not in chains. Our Lord’s heart remains open to every man and woman. Even though we cannot worship together, each of us can seek him in the tabernacles of our own hearts…”

-- U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops

EASTER LILIES & SPRING CLEAN UP
Thanks to everyone for your lily donations. Although our church was closed to public services, there were private Sunday Masses in the church. Sixty-four lilies honored our loved ones and adorned the sanctuary during Easter. We will be removing them this week. If you are interested in picking up any lilies you may have donated please do so after this Monday. They will be available on the rectory back porch.

UNIVERSAL OFFERTORY PROGRAM
Recognizing that our parishes depend on offertory donations for ongoing expenses the Diocese and the Catholic Community Foundation have established a Universal Offertory Program for all 185 parishes. The purpose of this initiative is to provide parishioners with an opportunity to support their local parish via a secure online gift, should their parish not currently have an online giving program.

The website is: www.CatholicCommunity.org/Offertory
Make sure that when you go to the website that it says Universal Offertory Program (and not “give to Catholic Charities”) You will be asked to “select an amount” (you can select a listed amount or click on “other” for an amount of your own. Click on “select a parish.” If you want your donation to go to St. Barbara please scroll down and select St. Barbara from the listing. Billing and payment information will follow. At the end of the page there will be a bar to press to “submit” Please let us know if you have submitted a contribution. Thanks to those of you who have already used this online offertory service.

The generosity of our Parishioners & Friends has brought St. Barbara Church the following:

Collection for April 26 - $1,133 (17 envelopes & cards)
Maintenance Fund - $120 (3 envelopes)

Thank you! Dziękuję bardzo!