Love is Never Postponed!

There seems to be so much today that is being postponed because of the restrictions and the fear of COVID-19. And while that is reasonable and practical, I have had a number of experiences with people who did not want to postpone a funeral or a wedding Mass. Of course the restrictions of no more than 10 persons present could make any gathering very small.

The funeral Mass for a man was attended by his sister, her husband, and the man’s daughter. It was a very simple ceremony with me singing some of the traditional chants of our Catholic service and incensing the remains. The sister of the deceased thanked me so much that they were able to celebrate a funeral Mass for their loved one.

Months ago a young couple of our parish began preparing for a May wedding. Since the groom’s parents had never travelled outside of their own region in Poland the bride’s parents were planning to go to Poland to meet with them and bring them back to the USA. The Mass was going to be in Polish so that his parents could feel at home.

Of course, you know with all the current situation travel has become restricted and difficult. The wedding couple said to me that they would like to go ahead, if it is possible, to be married in the Church, which they truly want. They will video the wedding for viewing by his parents back in Poland. I said yes as long as they remember the regulations that must be followed. I was touched by their desire to have the marriage blessed because today we find a shrinking number of couples in the United States having any kind of church wedding. It might be not exactly how this couple wanted the ceremony to go but love is not to be postponed!

Coming Soon – More Information on Opening our Church

Please be sure to watch your mailbox for a letter from St. Barbara’s next week. It will contain information about all the regulations that we will need to observe at our Masses on Weekdays and Sundays. Like so much else in Ohio, when we open up our church we will have to follow certain directives from the Diocese and from the State. For example, the number of worshipers in our church can only be 50% of full capacity.

Another consideration will be receiving Communion on the tongue. As the priest distributing Holy Communion, I must ask those who receive on the tongue if they would, out of charity, take the Eucharist in their hand. There is far greater chance of touching some saliva than there is even the skin of the hand when handing the host. So if you insist on receiving on the tongue, I will need to stop to sanitize my hands after you receive Communion just to assure myself and others that there is no saliva being transmitted to the next person. Again, I ask you to consider this request.

When you receive the letter please read over the directives. Soon we will all be able to once again join in the Mass and do so as safely as humanly possible.

– Fr. Joseph Hilinski
Because of you, thousands of people across our diocese have found help and hope at Catholic Charities during these challenging times. Requests for assistance have increased drastically since the pandemic began. Hot meal programs that transitioned to a takeout model saw an increase of up to 50%, St. Augustine Hunger Center is delivering more than 500 meals per day to those in need, pre-packaged pantry distribution has increased up to 3x more than before the pandemic began, and the St. Elizabeth Center shelter is practicing social distancing by moving all clients to motels. Thanks to your generosity, we are able to respond to these requests, serving more people and changing more lives than we ever thought possible. As of April 30th, a total of 36,249 faithful donors from across the Diocese have pledged $10.5 million towards the Annual Appeal goal of $13.5 million. Here at St. Barbara’s, parishioners have paid $8,212 toward our parish goal of $6,513. That is 160% of our overall goal! Your financial support makes a difference and transforms lives. Thank you on behalf of those served by Catholic Charities.

Prayer List
Please pray for our parishioners who are ill and all who are in need of our prayers:


During the Month of May
Remember to PRAY THE ROSARY

FOLLOW UP ON 2020 CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL

2020 ANNUAL APPEAL

While the pandemic has presented challenges, the generosity of our Parishioners & Friends has brought St. Barbara Church the following:

Collection for May 10 - $3,918
Maintenance Fund - $690
Additional for Easter - $50

Thank you! Dziękuję bardzo!

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 17 May 24

Fr. Hilinski will offer Masses for the following:
† Eleanor & † Frank Bialkowski
For the Parishioners
† Martin & † Mary Lucek
† Ben & † Henrietta Nowak
† Anton & † Theresa Wesley
Health & blessings for Gary & Family
† Bill Rettig

Fr. Knapik will offer Masses for the following:
† Jozef Pietrzycki
† Jacek Rapacz

STO LAT
Centennial of the birth of Pope St. John Paul II on May 18

On the 100th anniversary of the birth of Pope St. John Paul II on May 18, Pope Francis will offer his morning Mass at the tomb of St. John Paul II in St. Peter’s Basilica, according to the Vatican. May 18 is also the first day public Masses may resume throughout Italy.

Saint John Paul II
Karol Józef Wojtyła

Born: May 18, 1920
Ordained Priest: November 1, 1946
Appointed Auxiliary Bishop of Krakow: July 4, 1958
Appointed Archbishop of Krakow: January 13, 1964
Created Cardinal: June 26, 1967
Elected Pope: October 16, 1978
Installation: October 22, 1978
Died: April 2, 2005
Beatified: May 1, 2011
Canonized: April 27, 2014

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Thank you! Dziękuję bardzo!