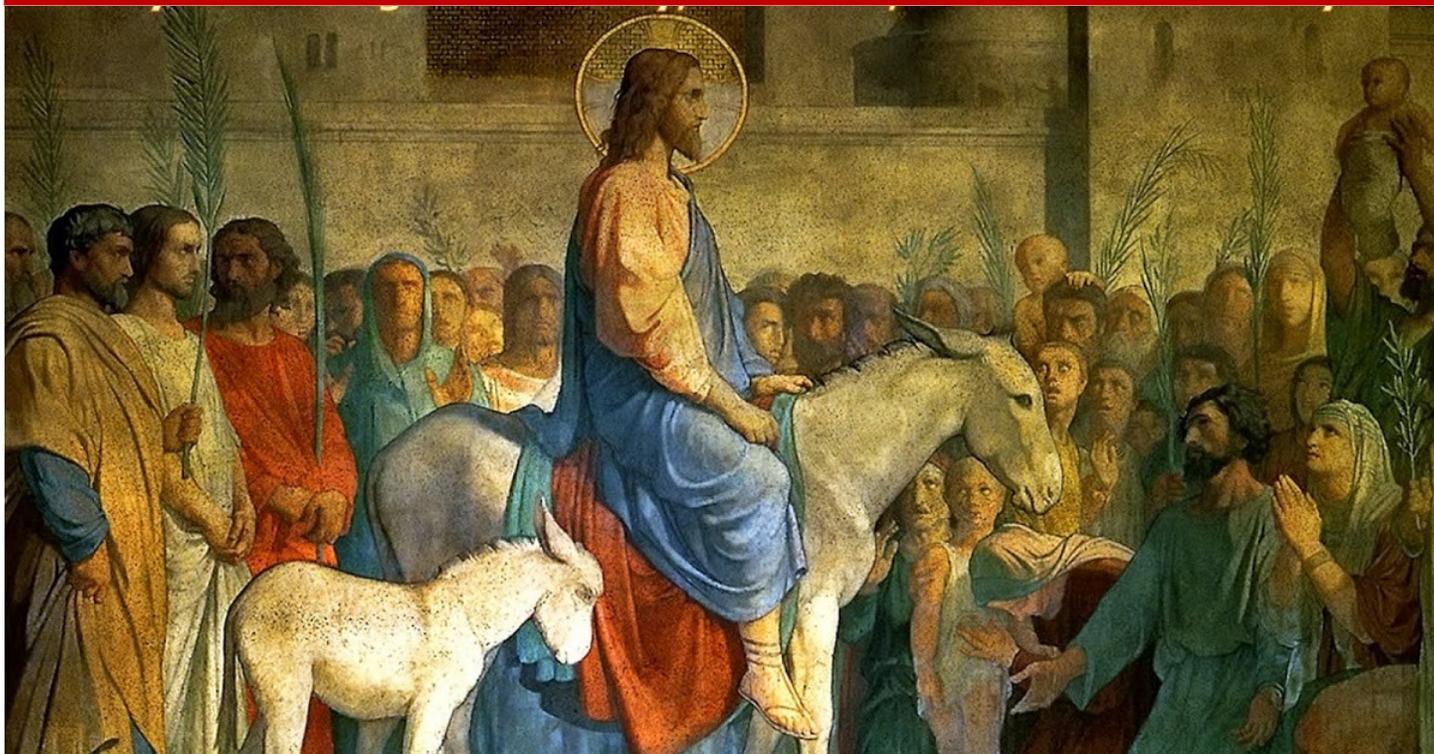


April 5, 2020—Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Apart, but not separated...

To comply with Governor Pritzker's Shelter-in-place order effective March 21st 2020, our church building and parish offices have closed and will remain closed until further notice. However, the Church of God, to which we belong never closes. The mission continues.

We offer you this digital version of our parish bulletin in the hopes of staying connected and united to one another in this time of crisis for our country and our world. This pandemic will come to an end like every other pandemic in the history of humanity, but what will it teach us? More than ever, let us trust in the Lord who promised to be with us until the end of time, and let us love and serve one another with more intentionality than even before.

Please visit www.saintmarys.org for online services.

From Our Pastor



Friends,

A long time ago I heard a quote that says, *“It is often in the darkest skies that we see the brightest stars”*. I do not know about you, but I have found this saying to be especially true in the last few days in which we have been surrounded by so much darkness. I am so grateful for the calls, emails, and letters that I have received from so many of you asking about my well-being and that of our priests and seminarians. I am grateful for the parish leaders that have stepped up to the challenge of coming up with ways we can put the Gospel into practice by helping our parishioners and neighbors who are most vulnerable during this pandemic.

I am inspired by those of you who are putting your God-given gifts to use by helping Saint Mary’s innovate through the use of technology to reach our parishioners. I am humbled to see the faith and love of so many of you as you strive to remain connected through the Lord in this difficult time.

During this time, I am comforted by the Lord’s promise that he would be with us until the end of days. I know that this darkness is temporary, and that death will not have the last word. I miss seeing you and gathering with you, especially on Sundays to celebrate the Eucharist and the Lord’s triumph over sin and death.

As we begin Holiest of Weeks, I ask that you please join me in the Live-stream Masses that we began last Sunday on Facebook and soon on YouTube. Please be aware that our team is not a professional broadcast team; it is simply a team of believers in Jesus, our Lord, who are going above and beyond to keep you connected to the Lord and His Church through this time of darkness.

Please know that I, along with our priests, are keeping you and your family in our prayers and that we are all in this together. As your Pastor, I ask you and exhort you to let your light shine in the days ahead; perhaps more than ever. Let the light of Christ shine through you as you spend time with your family and loved ones, let his Love be seen in these dark times. Know that I am doing all I can to do the same. If you need ANYTHING please let me know by emailing me at mdorantes@saintmarys.org or by calling our parish office at 773-280-7700.

In Christ, Who suffers with us,

Fr. Manny

PRAY

This Holy Week Join us for our Live-stream masses and reflections:

facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/
SaintMaryOfTheLake/](https://www.facebook.com/SaintMaryOfTheLake/)

YouTube

<https://bit.ly/349Knww>

HOLY WEEK 2020 ONLINE SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday	April 5th, 2020	Live-stream at 10:30am CST
Holy Thursday	April 9th, 2020	Live-stream at 7:00pm CST
Good Friday	April 10th, 2020	Live-stream at 7:00pm CST
Easter Sunday	April 12th, 2020	Live-stream at 10:30am CST

SEND US YOUR PRAYER INTENTIONS



You can send us your prayer intentions via a Private Message in our Facebook Page or by emailing Fr. Manny here:
mdorantes@saintmarys.org

Weekday Mass

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays **Live-stream at 12pm CST**

Interactive Biblical Reflections

Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays **Live-stream at 12pm CST**

PRAY

PALM SUNDAY



We have received inquiries about whether or not we would make palms available for people to take home. Although we appreciate that people want to feel connected to the Church during this Holy time of year, we cannot distribute palms this year.

The Archdiocese has asked parishes not to do so for fear of spreading the coronavirus. Leaving palms for people to take could mean many people touching them, increasing the risk of spreading the virus. Furthermore by doing a curbside pick up of palms even following the healthy distancing rules we would be encouraging parishioners to leave their homes putting themselves in further risk and their loved ones.

It's disappointing and difficult to not be able to practice our normal traditions, especially during Holy Week, but we need to do everything we can to prevent the spread of the virus and keep everyone safe. Please stay home, we will save the palms for you for when we can once again be together. Please join us for our LIVE-streamed Mass at 10:30AM.



PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN MARY FOR THE PROTECTION FROM CORONAVIRUS

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. **We entrust ourselves to you**, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. **Help us, Mother of Divine Love**, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and **deliver us from every danger**, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Thank you for your understanding.

Book Discussion via Zoom

Saint Mary of the Lake Book Club has moved to a video conferencing format.

The next book is *The Return of the Prodigal Son—A Story of Homecoming* by Henri Nouwen. Nouwen is a well-known spiritual author and guide who explores the themes of forgiveness and compassion present in Luke's parable of the prodigal son.

We will discuss the book over the next five Wednesdays at 7PM starting on April 8th and ending on May 6th. On April 8th we will cover pages 1-23 (paperback version) of the book.

The virtual room will open for each meeting at 6:30PM. All are welcome to participate. The address to join the meetings is: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/489923592>



SPECIAL "URBI ET ORBI" BLESSING BY POPE FRANCIS

"When evening had come" (*Mk 4:35*). The Gospel passage we have just heard begins like this. For weeks now it has been evening. Thick darkness has gathered over our squares, our streets and our cities; it has taken over our lives, filling everything with a deafening silence and a distressing void, that stops everything as it passes by; we feel it in the air, we notice in people's gestures, their glances give them away. We find ourselves afraid and lost. Like the disciples in the Gospel we were caught off guard by an unexpected, turbulent storm. We have realized that we are on the same boat, all of us fragile and disoriented, but at the same time important and needed, all of us called to row together, each of us in need of comforting the other. On this boat... are all of us. Just like those disciples, who spoke anxiously with one voice, saying "We are perishing" (v. 38), so we too have realized that we cannot go on thinking of ourselves, but only together can we do this.

It is easy to recognize ourselves in this story. What is harder to understand is Jesus' attitude. While his disciples are quite naturally alarmed and desperate, he stands in the stern, in the part of the boat that sinks first. And what does he do? In spite of the tempest, he sleeps soundly, trusting in the Father; this is the only time in the Gospels we see Jesus sleeping. When he wakes up, after calming the wind and the waters, he turns to the disciples in a reproaching voice: "Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?" (v. 40).

Let us try to understand. In what does the lack of the disciples' faith consist, as contrasted with Jesus' trust? They had not stopped believing in him; in fact, they called on him. But we see how they call on him: "Teacher, do you not care if we perish?" (v. 38). *Do you not care*: they think that Jesus is not interested in them, does not care about them. One of the things that hurts us and our families most when we hear it said is: "Do you not care about me?" It is a phrase that wounds and unleashes storms in our hearts. It would have shaken Jesus too. Because he, more than anyone, cares about us. Indeed, once they have called on him, he saves his disciples from their discouragement.

The storm exposes our vulnerability and uncovers those false and superfluous certainties around which we have constructed our daily schedules, our projects, our habits and priorities. It shows us how we have allowed to become dull and feeble the very things that nourish, sustain and strengthen our lives and our communities. The tempest lays bare all our prepackaged ideas and forgetfulness of what nourishes our people's souls; all those attempts that anesthetize us with ways of thinking and acting that supposedly "save" us, but instead prove incapable of putting us in touch with our roots and keeping alive the memory of those who have gone before us. We deprive ourselves of the antibodies we need to confront adversity.

In this storm, the façade of those stereotypes with which we camouflaged our egos, always worrying about our image, has fallen away, uncovering once more that (blessed) common belonging, of which we cannot be deprived: our belonging as brothers and sisters.

"*Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?*" Lord, your word this evening strikes us and regards us, all of us. In this world, that you love more than we do, we have gone ahead at breakneck speed, feeling powerful and able to do anything. Greedy for profit, we let ourselves get caught up in things, and lured away by haste. We did not stop at your reproach to us, we were not shaken awake by wars or injustice across the world, nor did we listen to the cry of the poor or of our ailing planet. We

carried on regardless, thinking we would stay healthy in a world that was sick. Now that we are in a stormy sea, we implore you: "Wake up, Lord!"

"Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?" Lord, you are calling to us, calling us to faith. Which is not so much believing that you exist, but coming to you and trusting in you. This Lent your call reverberates urgently: "Be converted!", "Return to me with all your heart" (*Joel 2:12*). You are calling on us to seize this time of trial as a *time of choosing*. It is not the time of your judgement, but of our judgement: a time to choose what matters and what passes away, a time to separate what is necessary from what is not. It is a time to get our lives back on track with regard to you, Lord, and to others. We can look to so many exemplary companions for the journey, who, even though fearful, have reacted by giving their lives. This is the force of the Spirit poured out and fashioned in courageous and generous self-denial. It is the life in the Spirit that can redeem, value and demonstrate how our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people – often forgotten people – who do not appear in newspaper and magazine headlines nor on the grand catwalks of the latest show, but who without any doubt are in these very days writing the decisive events of our time: doctors, nurses, supermarket employees, cleaners, caregivers, providers of transport, law and order forces, volunteers, priests, religious men and women and so very many others who have understood that no one reaches salvation by themselves. In the face of so much suffering, where the authentic development of our peoples is assessed, we experience the priestly prayer of Jesus: "That they may all be one" (*Jn 17:21*). How many people every day are exercising patience and offering hope, taking care to sow not panic but a shared responsibility. How many fathers, mothers, grandparents and teachers are showing our children, in small everyday gestures, how to face up to and navigate a crisis by adjusting their routines, lifting their gaze and fostering prayer. How many are praying, offering and interceding for the good of all. Prayer and quiet service: these are our victorious weapons.

"Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?" Faith begins when we realise we are in need of salvation. We are not self-sufficient; by ourselves we flounder: we need the Lord, like ancient navigators needed the stars. Let us invite Jesus into the boats of our lives. Let us hand over our fears to him so that he can conquer them. Like the disciples, we will experience that with him on board there will be no shipwreck. Because this is God's strength: turning to the good everything that happens to us, even the bad things. He brings serenity into our storms, because with God life never dies.

The Lord asks us and, in the midst of our tempest, invites us to reawaken and put into practice that solidarity and hope capable of giving strength, support and meaning to these hours when everything seems to be floundering. The Lord awakens so as to reawaken and revive our Easter faith. We have an anchor: by his cross we have been saved. We have a rudder: by his cross we have been redeemed. We have a hope: by his cross we have been healed and embraced so that nothing and no one can separate us from his redeeming love. In the midst of isolation when we are suffering from a lack of tenderness and chances to meet up, and we experience the loss of so many things, let us once again listen to the proclamation that saves us: he is risen and is living by our side. The Lord asks us from his cross to rediscover the life that awaits us, to look towards those who look to us, to strengthen, recognize and foster the grace that lives within us. Let us not quench the wavering flame (cf. *Is 42:3*) that never falters, and let us allow hope to be rekindled.

Embracing his cross means finding the courage to embrace all the hardships of the present time, abandoning for a moment our eagerness for power and possessions in order to make room for the creativity that only the Spirit is capable of inspiring. It means finding the courage to create spaces where everyone can recognize that they are called, and to allow new forms of hospitality, fraternity and solidarity. By his cross we have been saved in order to embrace hope and let it strengthen and sustain all measures and all possible avenues for helping us protect ourselves and others. Embracing the Lord in order to embrace hope: that is the strength of faith, which frees us from fear and gives us hope.

"Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?" Dear brothers and sisters, from this place that tells of Peter's rock-solid faith, I would like this evening to entrust all of you to the Lord, through the intercession of Mary, Health of the People and Star of the stormy Sea. From this colonnade that embraces Rome and the whole world, may God's blessing come down upon you as a consoling embrace. Lord, may you bless the world, give health to our bodies and comfort our hearts. You ask us not to be afraid. Yet our faith is weak and we are fearful. But you, Lord, will not leave us at the mercy of the storm. Tell us again: "Do not be afraid" (*Mt 28:5*). And we, together with Peter, "cast all our anxieties onto you, for you care about us" (cf. *1 Pet 5:7*).

PRAY

An Examen for Life During COVID-19

Take a moment to settle. Take a deep breath. Get comfortable. Like a rock settling on the bottom of a lake after it's thrown in, let yourself settle.

1. Acknowledge how you are feeling in this moment. If being calm is hard, acknowledge it. If you find yourself frustrated or stressed, acknowledge it. God wants to be present in all parts of our lives—not just the easy or serene moments.
2. Ask for light and insight as you prepare to review your day. For some that light may come in the form of a sense of the Divine. For others it's from a deep sense of your true self.
3. Take a moment to think about how COVID-19 has impacted your life. Even as we are being asked to distance ourselves from one another socially, ask yourself what connections you find yourself grateful for? Who makes you feel grounded and connected to God?
4. Public health issues have a way of making us recognize how interwoven our lives are with others in society. It can help us realize who we may often choose not to see or connect with. Is there a person or group of people especially affected by COVID-19 that you don't often choose to see or connect with normally? What connections to others are you becoming more aware of? Who do you normally choose to reach out and connect to? Who do you avoid or refuse to see? If you can, picture the faces of these people. What connections do you take for granted in your life? What connections impact you the most?
5. Note the emotions you feel when you think of these individuals without judging or overanalyzing. Simply acknowledge them, pay attention, and listen to where God may be speaking.
6. As you think of the ways we are connected or disconnected to one another, pick a connection (or lack thereof) that seems important, significant, or is manifesting itself the strongest. Pause and reflect on where you're being invited to grow from that moment. If you are a person of faith, take a moment to pray with it.
7. God gifted us with limitless creativity and imagination. Even in this time of separation and possible isolation, what is one way you can maintain meaningful connection to others—whether directly, through technology, or intentional focus and attention?

Take a deep breath and moment of quiet. When you are ready, return to your day.

- By Susan Haarman, Loyola University Chicago

PRAY

Readings for the Week

Monday, April 6	Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11
Tuesday, April 7	Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-33, 36-38
Wednesday, April 8	Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34; Mt 26:14-25
Thursday, April 9	<u>Chrism Mass</u> : Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9; Ps 89:21-22, 25, 27; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21 <u>Lord's Supper</u> : Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15
Friday, April 10	1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19; Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-15; Mk 7:31-37; Is 52:13 — 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-17, 25; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 — 19:42
Saturday, April 11	a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-22; b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; Ps 16: 5, 8-11; c) Ex 14:15 — 15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18; d) Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13; e) Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-6; f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; Ps 19:8-11; g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Mt 28:1-10
Easter Sunday, April 12	Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10 or (at an afternoon or evening Mass) Lk 24:13-35

CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK AT HOME

- Create a simple prayer space and gather there to pray during the week.
- Unplug from the TV and listen to Holy Week music.
- Do a mini-lenten observance for the week.

Palm Sunday:

- Put a green branch on your door or window to celebrate Palm Sunday.
- At your regular Mass time, read the first Palm Sunday Gospel (Mt 21:1-11) and meditate on or discuss what Jesus might be thinking as he enters Jerusalem for the last time.
- Join Saint Mary of the Lake for Mass at 10:30 am in English and at noon in Spanish. See page ____ for details.

Holy Thursday:

- Bake bread for sharing at dinner; make a ritual of stripping the dinner table of all cloths and decorations after dinner.

Good Friday:

- Pray the Stations of the Cross at 3 p.m.
- Consider a mini-fast following the Stations of the Cross until sundown on Saturday

Holy Saturday:

- In the morning, read Psalm 64 and break your Good Friday fast solemnly with a simple meal.

Easter Sunday:

- Dress up the dinner table again. Include candles and crosses, so that the candy baskets aren't the only festive items present. Sing Alleluia and read the Easter Gospel (Matthew 28:1-10) with solemnity and joy.



HOLY WEEK

To deepen and enrich your experience at this time of social isolation, look online for other suggestions to celebrate Holy Week at home.

SERVE

Do you need assistance during
the Coronavirus Pandemic?

just ask!

- Ordering groceries, soap, or supplies
- Pickup or delivery of groceries
- Obtaining prescriptions
- Well-being checks via phone!

Saint Mary of the Lake offers you trusted volunteers ready to help those who are shut in with limited mobility and/or limited internet skills.



We serve the whole neighborhood.
All are welcome!

Call 773-280-7700 for assistance.

If you are in need of assistance or if you would like to volunteer please call us or fill out the form
online:

<https://www.saintmarys.org/covidsupport.html>

You are not alone, we are in this together!

GIVE

Weekly Offerings:

February 29—March 1, 2020

TOTAL: \$ 6,663.00

March 7—8, 2020

TOTAL: \$ 7,371.00

March 14—15, 2020

Mailed \$ 900.00

E-giving 335.00

TOTAL: \$ 1,235.00

March 21—22, 2020

Mailed \$ 1,340.00

E-giving 435.00

TOTAL: \$ 1,775.00

March 28—29, 2020

Mailed \$ 1,805.00

E-giving 2,777.00

TOTAL: \$ 4,582.00

Weekly need: \$ 10,561.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Dear Parishioners—

Since the cancellation of all in-person liturgical celebrations, we have received donations via mail or online giving over the weeks. Before the stay-at-home mandate, we almost reached 70% of our weekly need. Currently, our weekly need is not being met—but our bills remain.

If you are able to continue with your donations, either mail the donations or consider online giving.

To donate online

To donate directly from your bank account at no cost to you and no cost to our parish please use Zelle Quick Pay.

Send your donation to **donate@saintmarys.org**

To donate using a Credit Card please visit our website or sign up at <https://abundant.co/stmaryofthelake/give>

SAINT MARY OF THE LAKE PARISH

Rev. Manuel Dorantes, Pastor

mdorantes@saintmarys.org



4220 North Sheridan Road Chicago, IL 60613

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00–7 pm

773-280-7700 | www.saintmarys.org

Weekend Associates

Fr. James T. Baraniak, O. Praem.
Fr. Michael Knotek

Deacons

Paul Spalla, Pastoral Associate
Ubaldo & Socorro Muñoz
William Pyrek

Pastoral Assistants

Nick Blair, S.J.
Hunter D'Armond, S.J.
Justin Kelly, S.J.
Danilo Mendoza Rugama, S.J.

Connor Ford, Music Ministry
cford@saintmarys.org

Mary Carravallah, Adm. Asst.
mcarravallah@saintmarys.org

Diego Garcia, Adm. Asst.
dgarcia@saintmarys.org

Darlene Kelly, Adm. Asst.
dkelly@saintmarys.org

Marie Palczewski, Bus. Manager
mpalczewski@saintmarys.org

Resident

Fr. Tony Gittins, CSSp