



4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out,
he found him and said, "Do you believe in the
Son of Man?" - Jn 9:35

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC

DLPH

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

Watervliet/Green Island NY

March 22, 2020

Celebration of the Eucharist

Saturday Vigil—4:00PM

Sunday—8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Weekday Schedule

Communion Service: Monday, 9:00 AM

Mass: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9:00 AM

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

PASTORAL STAFF

Fr Don Rutherford, Pastor
Deacon Mark Leonard
Shawn Allen, Business Administrator
sallen@ihm.rcpw.org

PARISH LIFE CENTER

2416 7th Avenue
Watervliet, NY 12189
(518) 273-6020
Fax: (518) 273-3978
Email: info@ihm.rcpw.org
Website: www.rcpw.weebly.com

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Mon—Thurs: 8:30am—3:30pm
Friday—10:30AM—3:30PM

Administrative Assistant

Judith Pope
jpope@ihm.rcpw.org

Secretary

Mary Beth Knapik

Archivist

Thomas Hanley
thanley@ihm.rcpw.org

Facility Manager

Matthew Carabis

FAITH FORMATION &

YOUTH MINISTRY CENTER

2425 7th Avenue
(518) 328-0427

Coordinator, Sharon Kowalski

skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org
Call for appointment

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday prior to the 4:00pm Mass

Sacrament of Baptism

Please contact the Parish Office to
make arrangements. Baptisms are
generally on the 2nd weekend of the
month.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples should make arrangements
as soon as the engagement is
announced.

Anointing of the Sick

The Anointing of the Sick will be
administered the first full weekend
of each month, immediately after
each Mass.

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Recognize God In Your Everyday Moments ~

The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent – Gracious

Vacations can be great times for refueling the body and renewing bonds within a family and between friends. No matter how good the vacation was, it is almost always good to get home when it is over. Sleeping in our own bed, taking a shower in our own bathroom, and resting on our own couch are some of the aspects of home we can miss while on the road. That's why encountering truly gracious and hospitable people while we are away is so important. These people are not family, but they sure can provide for us a glimpse of home. They can be waiters at a restaurant, desk hosts at a hotel, or even Uber drivers. They enrich our lives if for only a moment, yet that moment can make all the difference.

When disciples of Jesus Christ act in a gracious manner to all those they meet, they provide a glimpse of home. This home is not in a house in a particular location, but it is a home prepared for all of us for eternity. No matter how comfortable we may be in our earthly homes, it truly pales in comparison to eternity with God. In that heavenly home, there is no darkness, only light. There are no tears, only joy. There is no hate, only love.

We are ambassadors for heaven by how we offer ourselves to others. Our stewardship of hospitality allows others to see a glimpse of what God promises to us. Unless we truly step up and act in a gracious manner, will those we encounter ever know the Truth? I hate it when I am on the road and fail to meet people full of joy and welcome. At least I can look forward to coming home. What do those along the way look forward to in the next life that you can't show them a glimpse of in this one?— *Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS*
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Reading-Ephesians 5:14—"Therefore, it says, 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light.'"

Pope Francis-Laudato Si—"Greater scarcity of water will lead to an increase in the cost of food and the various products which depend on its use."

Catholic Social Teaching-USCCB,1991—"How many we apply our social teaching, with its emphasis on the life and dignity of the human person, to the challenge of protecting the earth, our common home?."

Care 4 Creation—"To save us all from misuse of all You have created, O Holy Trinity, Deliver us."

**ALL MASSES IN THE DIOCESE OF ALBANY
CANCELED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE,**

FAITHFUL URGED TO TAKE TIME TO PRAY AT HOME

Due to growing concerns and medical advice related to the rapid spread of COVID-19 in social settings, Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger has announced that **all regularly scheduled public Masses in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany — except weddings and funerals — will be canceled until further notice.** Churches will, however, remain open for private prayer, pending further regulations.

In addition, all Confirmations have been canceled until further notice and will be rescheduled. Funerals and weddings may be attended only by close family and in accordance with social distancing and capacity requirements. Further restrictions may force a change in those guidelines as we go forward.

“Although we know how difficult it is for Catholics to be without the Mass and without the Eucharist, we must do our part to help ‘flatten the curve’ and stop the spread of COVID-19 in order to protect the most vulnerable among us,” Bishop Scharfenberger said when making the announcement. “I encourage the faithful to pray and fast as we continue our journey through this season of Lent. Try to include at least 15 minutes of daily intentional prayer, with family where possible and safe. Use the Bible, say the Rosary, watch Mass on TV, and please remember to pray for those who are suffering from the Coronavirus worldwide and for all those in the medical community who are on the front lines.”

The Diocese of Albany is keeping Catholics apprised of changes, updates and resources on its dedicated web page: rcda.org/coronavirus. In addition, a Faith at Home page includes links to livestreamed Mass, daily Scripture readings, saints of the day, and suggestions for creating a sacred space at home: rcda.org/coronavirus/resources.

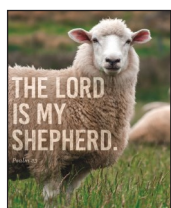
Giovanni Virgilio, Jr. | Diocesan Chancellor



In Memoriam ~ 2020-21

<p>In loving memory of our Families: The Carlsons, The Mardigans, The Foleys & The Butlers requested by Bob & Carol Carlson</p> <p>2/7/21</p>	<p>In loving memory of Albert P Morelli, Donald & Eileen Gallagher Hogan requested by Don & Patti Hogan</p> <p>1/10/21</p>	<p>In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family</p> <p>1/10/21</p>
<p>In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family</p> <p>10/25/20</p>	<p>In loving memory of William T Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family</p> <p>8/23/20</p>	<p>In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond & Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope</p> <p>7/19/20</p>
<p>In loving memory of The Barron & Rys Families requested by the Family</p> <p>7/19/20</p>	<p>In loving memory of John T Sherlock requested by his wife and Family</p> <p>7/19/20</p>	<p>In loving memory of the Edward Brooks Family, Foglia Family & Monticup Family requested by Rose Brooks & Family</p> <p>5/24/20</p>
<p>In loving memory of Adam & Katherine Novak John & Rosalie Novak & Florence Szpot requested by the Family</p> <p>5/10/20</p>		

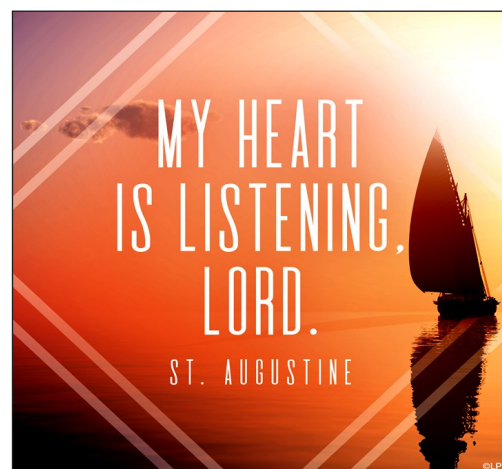
Gospel Meditation ~



4th Sunday of Lent — “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” Jesus wants to motivate each one of us to see the truth. After developing a relationship with Jesus, the blind man “sees” as someone very special. The Pharisees, due to the blindness caused by their ignorance, prejudice, and need for self-preservation, still remain blind. Presuppositions, prejudices, assumptions, and our needs can easily blind us to truth. We see what we want or need to see and not what is really there. In addition, our stubbornness continues to convince us that we are right and that our vision is perfect. Only God can complete the picture.

Look around at our world. So much of what is happening today is due to the reluctance of folks to allow themselves to be stretched and brought to see what is really there. Many react to what life presents to them more with the lenses of ignorance than lenses of clarity. The Gospel carries great transformative value. With it, God corrects our vision and replaces our limited sight with the fullness of his sight. God opens our eyes so that we can see that it is not about preserving what we have created but of living in the immensity and wonder of God’s kingdom.

Through a simple, loving relationship with God, we can break through the tethers of prejudice, eradicate fear, dispel the darkness of hatred and sin, discover freedom, live in peace, work for justice, be effective stewards of creation, assist the migrant and the immigrant, and safeguard our economic systems and policies so that they truly serve all of God’s children. What we see is often an artificial lie. Our truth is much bigger than what our limited sight believes it to be. Allow God to work in and through you. Do not be afraid. Be open and be humble enough to know that you need help. Many human beings are living with severe cataracts that produce sight that is at best blurred. Are you one of them? ©LPi



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Since all regularly scheduled Masses are canceled until further notice, we will not be scheduling any new Mass intentions until this directive is lifted.

Intentions that have been previously reserved will be rescheduled at a later date before any new are taken.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding of this situation.

RECONCILIATION SERVICE: MARCH 25

On March 25th we will have General Reconciliation Service in the Church parking lot of Immaculate Heart of Mary at 9:30am & 6:00pm. All are invited to attend. It will be held outdoors.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION Weekly Collection (incl Mail-in/E.G)

Mar 16-17, 2019.....\$5267.00
Mar 14-15, 2020.....\$5120.00