

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Community

Watervliet/Green Island NY



MARCH 29, 2020

5th SUNDAY OF LENT

Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life;
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live."

- Jn 11:25



**CHURCH & PARISH LIFE CENTER
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE**

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PARISH LIFE CENTER

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PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

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FAITH FORMATION &

YOUTH MINISTRY CENTER

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Coordinator

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Call for information or appointment



Reading-Romans 8:9 —“Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him.”

Pope Francis-Laudato Si—“It is also conceivable that the control of water by large multinational businesses may become a major source of conflict in this century.”

Catholic Social Teaching-USCCB,1991—“How can we encourage a serious dialogue in the Catholic community—in our parishes, schools, colleges, universities, and other settings—on the significant ethical dimensions of the environmental crisis?”

Care 4 Creation—“To save us from rejecting Your grace, O Holy Trinity, Deliver us.”

Readings for the Week of March 29, 2020

Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [7]/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [4ab]/Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 [cf. 7]/Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Jn 11:45-56

Next Sunday: Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 [2a]/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14 – 27:66 or 27:11-54

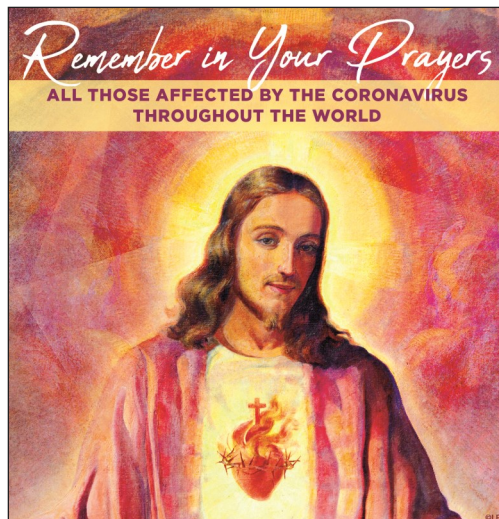


Gospel Meditation ~ March 29th


Even though we say that we believe, there is a part of us that doesn't. There are many times in our lives when we experience death, whether it be the physical death of someone we love, a failed relationship, the loss of a job, or a broken dream. As we are going through these death experiences, we can easily find ourselves reaching out to God to make it better and fix it! We think that the proper order of life is to maintain the things of this world, especially those things that are essential to our sense of well-being and security. We do not like change. The grieving that comes from our death experiences can keep us stuck and in despair. If we have lost something or someone of great value, the very meaning and essence of life is lost with them. We need gentle companions to lift us from despair and that is precisely who God desires to be in our life as well.

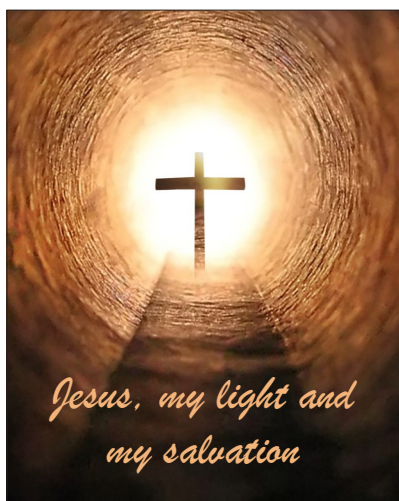
God calls us out of our tombs, where we have been closed up in fear and despair, and shouts, “Come out!” He desperately wants to show us the path to hope and the new life that is possible after loss and death. But our faith can be weak, and we still prefer to cling to the memory of what we had rather than the joyful possibilities of tomorrow. We sometimes live as if God is not real and that the transformative power of His resurrected presence is a story found in the Bible rather than a narrative unfolding in our lives.

God is the God of surprises, not our demise. God opens new possibilities, begins new chapters, creates new verses, and brings us to new heights! We spend so much time and energy ruminating over what we left behind yesterday that we are far too tired to see what can unfold tomorrow. Loving some-



one new doesn't negate our past loves. Embracing the love of a person, God, or life itself tomorrow doesn't diminish the love of yesterday. Each of our loves is different, and one cannot be replaced by another. They don't cancel each other out. God truly has tended to every detail of our lives, and if we listen to each detail, we find that they all lead us back to Him. Jesus wants us to come out of our closed-up tombs. Are we going to listen this time? - ©LPi

 In Memoriam ~ 2020-21		
In loving memory of our Families: The Carlsons, The Mardigans, The Foleys & The Butlers requested by Bob & Carol Carlson 2/7/21	In loving memory of Albert P Morelli, Donald & Eileen Gallagher Hogan requested by Don & Patti Hogan 1/10/21	In loving memory of Joseph V Germano requested by the Family 1/10/21
In loving memory of John A O'Brien requested by the Family 10/25/20	In loving memory of William T Sr, Julia F and Robert A Fahr requested by the Family 8/23/20	In loving memory of Bryan T Roberts (son) Raymond & Helen Werner (parents) requested by Judith Pope 7/19/20
In loving memory of The Barron & Rys Families requested by the Family 7/19/20	In loving memory of John T Sherlock requested by his wife and Family 7/19/20	In loving memory of the Edward Brooks Family, Foglia Family & Monticup Family requested by Rose Brooks & Family 5/24/20



IHM PRAYER MINISTRY~

We believe as faith-filled people, prayer matters and offers hope. If you think you might be interested in being part of the prayer tree ministry; which is made up of a group of people who pray for others —for anyone who would like to have prayers said for themselves for wellbeing; a relative, friend, or for a family member, contact Brenda at 518 271-6184.

Let us pray for the wellbeing of one another, and an end to this virus.

In loving memory of
Adam & Katherine Novak
John & Rosalie Novak & Florence Szpot
requested by the Family
5/10/20

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 intentions are taken.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding of this situation.

Our mission at Immaculate Heart of Mary is to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and to praise His name, by being a Christ-centered, welcoming, unified community. Called to holiness, we celebrate the love of God through prayer and worship, the Eucharist and other sacraments, catechesis, evangelization and service to all. Always His people, we strive to be good stewards of our time, talent and treasure.

Check your local TV station (Watervliet 1303) for time of taped Sunday Mass.

Presently, the PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED to the public until further notice. However, you can still continue to mail in your weekly donations or drop them off in the mail slot in 7th Avenue entrance door.

Thank you for your continued support to Immaculate Heart of Mary. God bless you always.

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The 6 Characteristics of an Everyday Stewardship for Lent – Committed

I remember Jim Valvano, Jimmy V to many, saying the iconic words, “Don’t give up; you can never give up.” The former coach of the NC State men’s basketball team was dying of cancer, yet he refused to throw in the towel and give in to his disease. His words exemplified the best of the human spirit we all share. Sometimes, living out those words seem much more difficult than saying them.

These words are also important for our faith life. The life Jesus calls us to is not easy. When working toward a life of greater generosity and surrender of all to God, we are prone to fall flat on our face many times. We are not called to this life only when we are strong. It is how we respond when times are the most difficult that truly defines us as disciples and stewards. The world may think we are down for the count, but rising again gives testimony that in Christ we are stronger.

Commitment takes a willingness to do the things needed to get stronger and build our spiritual muscles. We cannot expect to find success in the spiritual life unless we continue to work on our resolve and grow in our knowledge of the faith. A marathon runner would never be able to make it to the finish line unless they have trained and prepared in advance. We must work hard to stay the course and prepare for the race at hand. No matter what this life may have in store for us, we are called to not give up. God will never give up on us. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi