

# Lent



## THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

SUNDAY – MARCH 29, 2020

# Lent



Please note, this is a tentative schedule and will only take place if the quarantine has been lifted.

Dear Friends in Christ,

We are coming closer to the most important celebration of our faith: the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Next week we will follow Jesus and enter into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord). Then Holy Week with its climax of the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil/Holy Saturday). On Tuesday in the Holy Week (usually this event occurs in the morning of Holy Thursday, but because of travel time issue, it is moved to Tuesday of the Holy Week) every priest of the Diocese will gather together with the Bishop to celebrate the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral - Saint Patrick (the Church of our Bishop). During this Chrism Mass, Bishop Jugis will bless the oils (the oil of Catechumen; the oil of Anointing of the sick, and the Sacred Chrism) which will be used for celebrating the sacraments during the year at parishes. In this Mass the priests will renew their vows/promises to the Bishop which they took when they were ordained.

During the Triduum, on Holy Thursday, we will celebrate the Institutions of the Eucharist and Holy Orders which Jesus established at the Last Supper. On Good Friday, we will commemorate the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus which is “the peak” of God’s unconditional love for us - the sinners (Christ died for our sins while we are still sinners).

Easter Vigil/ Holy Saturday will be celebrated after the sunset. On this night, together with all the believers, we will await and celebrate the Risen Christ who by His resurrection brings us hope, joy, and gladness. On this night the Church will joyfully announce: *This is the Most Blessed of all nights.*

We cannot really celebrate Easter joyfully without our preparation during Forty days of Lent. We cannot really celebrate the joy and gladness of Easter without knowing and acknowledging the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In the last two weeks we have heard about the Life-Giving water, the man born blind being cured, and this week the raising of Lazarus from death to life.

We cannot truly celebrate Easter with JOY and GLADNESS if we do not want to come to Jesus to drink His **Life-Giving Water**, if we do not want to go to “wash” our eyes in the Pool of Siloam - the Sacrament of Penance, and if we do not listen to the call from Jesus to **come out from “our tomb.”**

Again, I invite each of you to come to the Triduum, particularly the Easter Vigil liturgy, to experience the richness of the liturgy of the Church and also to be present at the **Most Blessed of all nights.**

May God, who has been with you, continue to bless you and your family and bring you closer to the JOY and GLADNESS of the resurrection of His Son and our Lord. Amen.

Peace, Fr. Tien



Our palms for Palm Sunday were delivered this week. There is a good chance we will still be under restrictions by executive order. However, you can still receive your palms. There will be a table set up under the portico on Palm Sunday with the blessed palms for you to pick up.

### CLASSES - MEETINGS

#### **CANCELLED**

Sunday ... Faith Formation ... 10:30 am - 11:30 am

Sunday ... Confirmation ... 6:00 pm

Monday ... Women’s Guild Meeting ... 10:00 am

(Second Monday of each month)

Monday ... Liturgy of the Hours ... after 9:00 am Mass  
(If there is not Mass it will begin at 9:00 am in the Chapel)

Monday ... R.C.I.A. ... 6:30 pm

Tuesday ... Craft & Sewing Group ... 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Tuesday ... Knights of Columbus Meeting ... 7:00 pm

(First Tuesday of each month)

Thursday...Choir Practice ... 3:00 - 5:00 pm

### Stewardship

Budgeted Weekly Needs \$4,848  
Envelopes/Cash/Online Total \$ 243

Attendance  
Saturday 4:00 P.M. 0  
Sunday 9:00 A.M. 0  
11:30 A.M. 0



Thank you to all who faithfully contribute and are so generous to our Parish.

Dear Members of St. Francis of Assisi Church,

It has been almost 2 weeks since with the executive order from NC Governor and the guidelines from our Bishop, our Church activities have been restricted, particularly the “heart” of the Church activity: The Holy Eucharistic Celebration.

Do you miss it? I know you did realize the need of the Holy Mass and truly missed to be nurtured/nourished by the Lord Himself. It is also hard for me to offer Mass alone physically everyday (spiritually you are with me!). Sometimes, at the time I offered Mass (no set time), some parishioners came to pray, so, I invited them to join me. Of course, no more than 10 peoples, included myself, and keeping social distancing rule, were at this holy gathering. Though I kept the restriction, I am still worried about transmitting the virus, which we do not know we have in the first 7 days!

I am fine; I do not worry; I am in good health and thanks to some parishioners showing their care to me by giving me some masks! I do know you have been praying for me, and certainly I have prayed for the Divine Protection for each and everyone of you, particularly at the Holy Mass.

Friends, learn how to have “Spiritual Communion” every day, particularly at night prayer before you rest. Now, it is one of many important ways to sustain you during this global crisis.

Keep your spirit strong; place your hope in the right place and person: The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and God’s mercy, and invoke the Precious Blood of Jesus Christ to cover and heal us.

Remember, we are the Year of Saint Joseph, ask him to protect God’s Family on earth as he protected the Holy Family as they were on earth.

Saint Joseph - Protect us. Amen.

Some have asked about the Triduum and Easter celebration. I really do not know if I will be able to celebrate them with you this year or not. With all the restrictions, right now, unlikely we will. But, keep praying! Keep knocking the door of God’s mercy!

And remember, I still hear confession in the Church every day Monday to Friday from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., and after hearing confession I will give Holy Communion to people with the restriction: no more than 10 people at a time! And, please receive the Lord reverently in your hands.

I invoke the Divine Protection come upon you and your loved ones, and please remember me in your daily prayers.

In God’s Love,  
Fr. Tien

**Pray for everyone who seeks healing:** Eric Baquet, Ray Behr, Dean Birchard, Alexander Canelas, Robert Cerritelli, Michael Ciochetti, Agatha Coffey, Tom Coffey, Mary Cude, Craig Currier, Dotti Currier, Heath Currier, Patti Dameron, Dan DeBetta, Kathy DeBetta, Lillianne Duong Davis, Lakelynn Ellis, Joseph Fernandez, Brendan Fox, Carol Fox, Mickey Goodwin, Curt Halter, Lori Bourgeois Harvey, Brandon Hatch, Peggy Hewlett, Joyce Hillard, Bill Himschoot, Jim Hobin, Emilee Janson, Edline Jigla, Florencio Jimenez, Dwayne Edward Johnson, Larry Joseph, Jr., Jerry & Sue Kempinski, Lauren Kennedy, Brandon Lowery, Grover McMahan, Holly Marsten, Bill Matthews, Lenore Maynard, Danny Mercer, Millard Michaels, Dakota Miller, Bill & Dee Moffitt, Germaine Moffitt, Kathy Moffitt, Dolores Molter, Laura Moore, Jerry Murphy, Wanda Orf, Nonie Ortiz, Berry Rankin, Chris Richards, Freeman Robinson, Josette Roisin, Derrick Scaletta, Bill Shaw, Bena Lee Shields, Cora Shope, Marlene Taber, John Tastinger, Elijah Thomas, Ronald Thomas, Ed Tisdale, Irene Tisdale, Adan Vanbourgardien, Travis Verge, Teresa Williams, Thomas Wimpey, Marlene Woods, Charlene Youdell, Alice Yuzzi,



## Mass Schedule and Intentions Father Tien will offer these Masses privately

### Saturday, March 28

5:00 P.M. † Jean Mezera by Barbara Gilbert

### Sunday, March 29

#### Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:00 A.M. The Parishioners at St. Francis  
11:30 A.M. † The Holy Souls in Purgatory

### Monday, March 30

9:00 A.M. † Arthur Woods by Marlene Woods

### Tuesday, March 31

8:00 A.M. † The Holy Souls in Purgatory

### Wednesday, April 1

5:30 P.M. † Calvin Smart by Donna Hogsed

### Thursday, April 2

9:00 A.M. † The Holy Souls in Purgatory

### Friday, April 3

9:00 A.M. † The Holy Souls in Purgatory by Basilia

### Saturday, April 4

5:00 P.M. † Cotton Beals by Sharon Beals

### Sunday, April 5

#### Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

9:00 A.M. † James Hess by Mike Kurczewski  
11:30 A.M. † The Holy Souls in Purgatory

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Cancelled

Saturday from 4:00 to 4:45 P.M.

Wednesday at 6:15 P.M.

### The Rosary and The Divine Mercy Chaplet

Cancelled

The Rosary is recited everyday one-half hour before each Mass except on first Saturday.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is recited each Friday at 3:00 P.M.

**Elderly & Shut-in:** Barbara Elliot, Candida Hernandez, Peggy Gibson.

**Parishioners & all armed forces:** Edmund Cameron, Matthew Cameron, Wallace Cameron, William Crunkleton, Patrick Debo, Michael Douglas, Jeremiah Elam, Jacob Ewing, Joseph Hagge, Ben Hunter, Carol Hysell, Thomas Hysell, Raymond Hysell, Amy Hysell, Stephen Karcher, Kyle McCormick, Chris Richards, Lauren Richards, Michael Ricke, Brandon Sanchez, Elizabeth Scoone.



**Thank you for your service**