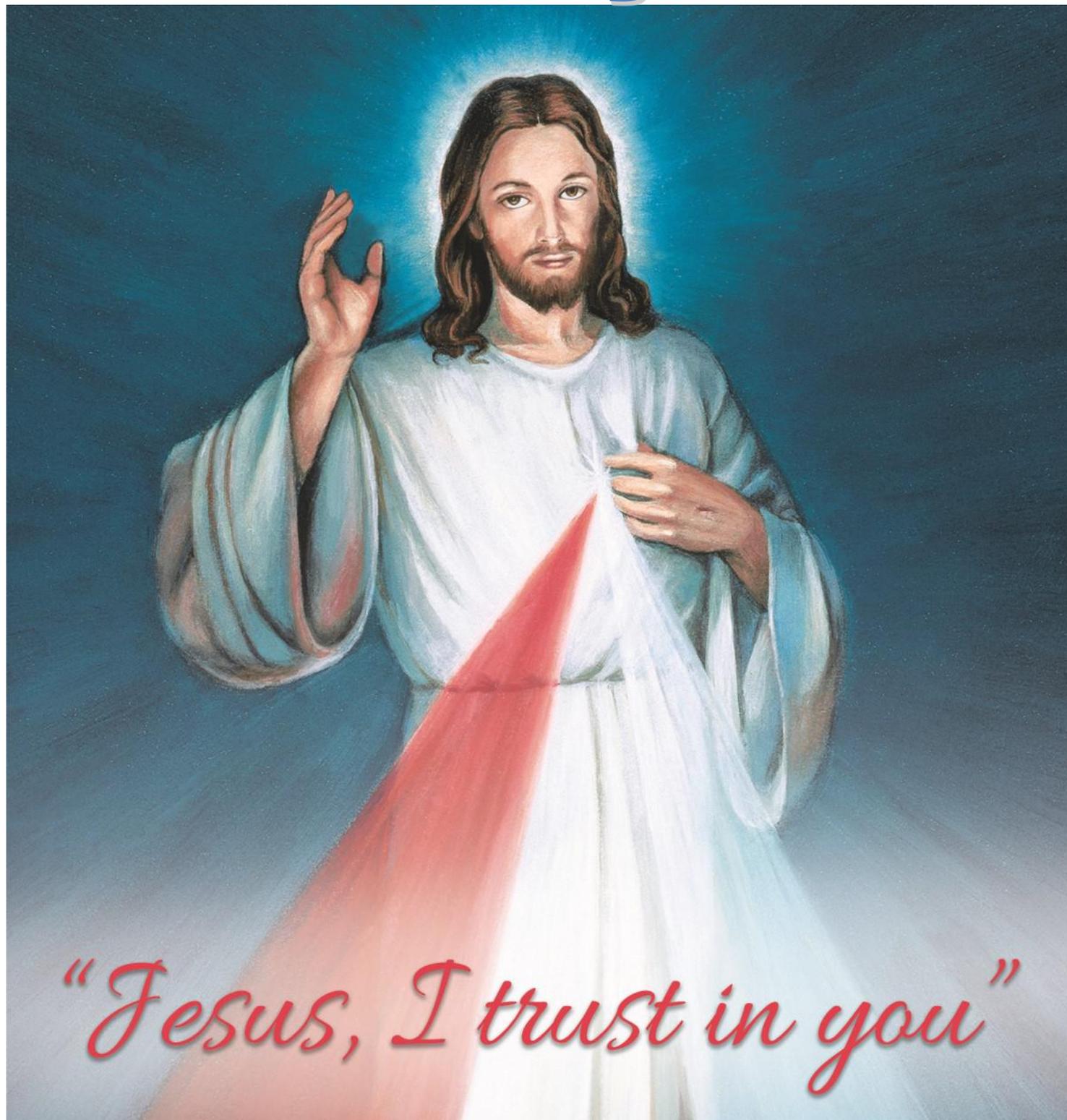




The Collaborative of  
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH**  
and **ST. JOSEPH PARISH**



# **Divine Mercy Sunday**



*“Jesus, I trust in you”*

- April 19, 2020 -

**W**elcome! We welcome all who have come to worship in our parish community. If you are new to our parish, please introduce yourself to any of the priests or deacon. We encourage you to register in the parish by calling the rectory. Your presence at our parish is greatly appreciated and welcomed.



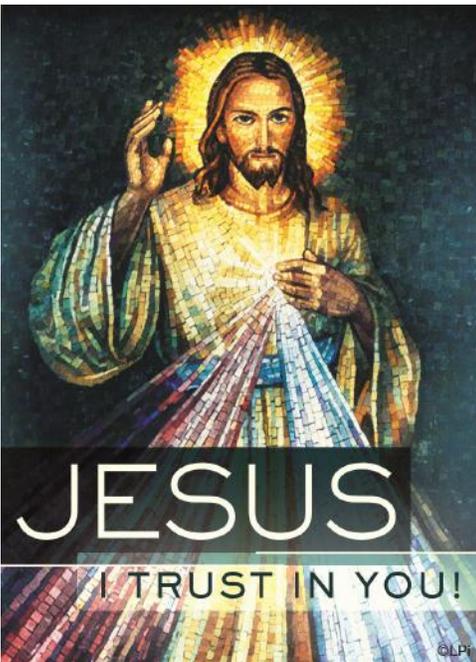
**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**

44 School Street  
 Quincy, MA 02169-6602  
 p: 617.773.1021  
 f: 617.471.8849  
 w: stjohnsquincy.org  
 e: stjohns@stjohnsquincy.org

Saturday 4:00pm (Vigil)  
 Sunday 8:30am, 11:00am & 5:00pm  
 Weekday Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 8:00am

**St. John's Food Pantry**

p: 617.472.4908  
 Hours: The pantry is open on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30PM for our neighbors in need (located in the building next to the back door of the rectory.)



**COLLABORATIVE TEAM**

**Pastor**

Rev. Matthew M. Williams

**Parochial Vicar**

Rev. Joseph Boafu

**Senior Priest In Residence**

Rev. Arthur Wright

**Priest in Residence**

Rev. Jonathan P. DeFelice, O.S.B.

**Business Manager**

Peter Culhane

**Religious Education Director**

Jess Colantonio

email: saintjtsfamilies@gmail.com

**Collaborative Administrator**

Donna Niosi

**Collaborative Administrator's Assistant**

Michaela Silva

**Music Director at St. Johns & St. Joe**

Paul Kelly

**Youth Minister**

Francesca Alberti

email: Shinethelight247@gmail.com

**Evangelization & Outreach Director**

Andrea Alberti

email: AndreainQuincy@gmail.com

Follow Us On Social Media

Facebook: Saint J's Families

Instagram: SaintJs\_Families and-SHINE\_official (underscore underscore)

Follow our Pastor Fr. Matt Williams on twitter @frmatt4Boston

**Dan Curran, Collaborative Pastoral**

Council, Secretary

DanCurranInQuincy@gmail.com

**Mike Boucher, Collaborative Pastoral**

Council, Chairman 774-266-0064



**ST. JOSEPH PARISH**

550 Washington Street  
 Quincy, MA 02169-6602  
 p: 617.472.6321  
 f: 617-471.8849  
 w: stjosephsquincy.org  
 e: stjoesquincy@comcast.net

Saturday 4:00pm (Vigil)  
 Sunday 8:30am & 10:30am  
 Weekday Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am  
 Rosary starts at 8:25am

**St. Joseph's Food Pantry**

p:617.472.6321  
 Hours: The pantry is open on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30PM for our neighbors in need (located in the rectory basement).

**COLLABORATIVE OFFICE & MAILING ADDRESS**

556 Washington Street  
 Quincy, MA 02169-6602

**BULLETIN NOTICES**

Must be received by the Rectory no later than 4:00pm  
**Monday Afternoons** to appear in the following Sunday bulletin.

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Friday 9:00am-3:30pm

# FR. MATT'S CORNER

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Hallelujah! He is risen!

So many wonderful things took place during the week we call Holy!

I've asked Andrea to take this opportunity to share all the wonderful things that God has done and is doing in and through our collaborative.

May the Lord give you His peace,

Your brother in Christ,

Fr. Matt+

**Hunger for Justice 2020** THANK YOU to our Collaborative Parishes for making **Hunger for Justice 2020** a huge success!!! Over 50 teens and adults gathered virtually for a 31 hours retreat of Fasting, Prayer and Almsgiving under the direction of our Youth Minister Francesca and Pastor Father Matt Williams. An unprecedented event covered by Catholic TV and attested to have changed lives and hearts for Jesus, this Triduum Retreat consisted of young people fasting, sleeping on floors in solidarity with those in need, praying Divine Mercy, Holy Rosary, watching the Passion of the Christ, as well as engaging in the Sacred Triduum live-streamed services from Father Matt's youtube channel. Besides the deep spiritual treasures received and given, our St. Joseph Food pantry and friends received Essential Easter Baskets filled with needs for the pandemic.

Finally, with a very very grateful heart, we say thank you to YOU for your love prayer support and incredible generosity in helping us raise (to date) over 10,000 for the St. Joseph Pantry. Please consider giving to the Go Fund me which is still up on our website. With many new young people engaged in this endeavor, there are new volunteers and supporters of the St. Joseph Food Pantry helping our amazing long-standing directors and volunteers.

50 +teens and adults gathered on line for all waking hours Good Friday and Holy Saturday for the Hunger for Justice Virtual Retreat.



The Hunger for Justice 2020 pandemic essential baskets were made & delivered on Holy Saturday thanks to our generous parishioners & friends.

**Easter Vigil Virtual Ensemble Video** - Do you know we have stars among us at St. John the Baptist and St. Joseph Collaborative. First off, we have EVANGELISTS - beautiful amazing people willing to SING ALLELUIA while many are suffering and feel we may not have much to sing about. As Father Matt says when the Christian is squeezed Christ comes out. Although suffering and pain are real...in Christ, there is always HOPE. From Good Friday to Easter Sunday we learn our God is one who brings death to life. He is a miracle worker and He brings LIFE. In a much smaller way, this video brought LIFE - light and joy- in a time that can feel really dark...really what is more LIGHT and Joyful than a singing smile? So hats off to our stars who brightened up this Triduum by sharing the light of Christ within their hearts with our video...who are evangelists even beyond our walls to Catholic TV and Channel Five News! Check it out on Fr. Matt youtube page and please share it with a friend.



# FAITH FORMATION

## This Sunday Is Divine Mercy!

How should we prepare for this great Feast of Mercy?

Jesus told St. Faustina that this Feast of Mercy would be a very special day when **"all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened"**. (Diary 699) Our Lord made a great promise to all those souls who would go to Confession and then receive Him in Holy Communion on the Feast of Mercy, on the Sunday after Easter, which is now called Divine Mercy Sunday throughout the Catholic Church.

Jesus promised that **"The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment."**(Diary 699) He went on to say **"I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My Mercy."** (Diary 1109)

We want to encourage everyone to take advantage of this incredible promise and the additional Plenary Indulgence on this great Feast of Mercy "Divine Mercy Sunday". We want you to benefit fully from these promises, and we also want you to notify all of your family and friends about them too and urge them to return to the practice of their faith!

The Image of The Divine Mercy, which Our Lord requested to be solemnly blessed and venerated on this day, will be on display in our church. Pope John Paul II said that the image portrays the Risen Jesus Christ bringing Mercy to the whole world. Our Lord said **"I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish"**. (Diary 341, 48) Please take the time to visit with this Image of The Divine Mercy and venerate Jesus.

Jesus said to St. Faustina **"I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You"**. (Diary 327) **"The two rays denote Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the cross. ...Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him."** (Diary 299)

About the feastday "Divine Mercy Sunday", Jesus said **"...tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon the souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet.... Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy"**. (Diary 699)

Our Lord said **"When you go to confession, to this fountain of My mercy, the Blood and Water which came forth from My Heart always flows down upon your soul..."** and **"Every time you go to confession, immerse yourself entirely in My mercy with great trust, so that I may pour the bounty of My grace upon your soul. When you approach the confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I Myself act in your soul. Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy"** (1602) **Make your confession before Me. The person of the priest is... only a screen. Never analyze what sort of a priest that I am making use of; open your soul in confession to Me, and I will fill it with My light."** (1725)

It is required of all Catholics to confess their serious sins at least once every year. If you haven't yet met this obligation then take advantage of this outstanding opportunity to receive an outpouring of an ocean of graces that Jesus promises on this day. Those who have already confessed their sins should make room for others.

The Church allows for one to go to Confession for up to about 20 days, before or after Divine Mercy Sunday.

Excerpts taken from the Diary of St. Faustina, copyright 1987 Marians of the Immaculate Conception, Stockbridge MA., USA

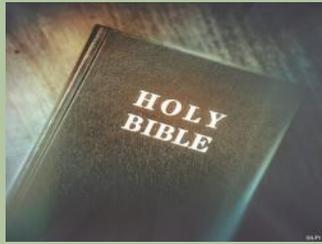
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# INTENTIONS

## Peace be with you

**Lectio Divina, or "divine reading"** is a traditional way of listening and talking with God through Scripture. There are four movements:



**(1) Lectio (reading)** Read a short scripture selection. Less is more with Scripture prayer. Digest it slowly. "Listen with the ear of your heart" (St. Benedict) for a word, phrase, or verse that stands out to you—perhaps ever so slightly.

**(2) Meditatio (meditation)** Think about whatever grabbed your attention. Ponder that word or phrase. Ask questions about that word.

**(3) Oratio (prayer)** Talk to God about this passage as you would to any person. If it helps, think of God as a parent, sibling, or trusted friend. He is your Father, Jesus has called you his friend, and with him, we are beloved children of God.

**(4) Contemplatio (contemplation)** Rest in God's presence for a few minutes of silence. This allows the Lord to work on you in unseen ways.

I am grateful for Evangelical Catholic's "1% Challenge Lectio Divina" resource. For more information please visit: <https://www.evangelicalcatholic.org/lectio-divina-2/>

### April 19 ~ The Second Sunday of Easter or Sunday of Divine Mercy

On this Divine Mercy Sunday, our scriptures give us clear instruction about how we are to live as disciples. In the reading from Acts, the author describes the disciples' way of life: "They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers." Teaching, prayer and Eucharist, sound familiar? If we are to live as faithful disciples, we also need to hear the words of Jesus in the gospel, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." Nourished by prayer and our reception of Holy Communion – bring the peace and mercy of Christ to those you meet today.

#### *Project Rachel Post Abortion Healing Retreat (5/30)*

*"My spirit was broken and as far as I knew beyond repair. I was consumed with feelings of remorse. During the retreat, I realized the lasting impact of forgiveness. I knew God had forgiven me, and now I needed to forgive myself."* – A Project Rachel Retreat Attendee. The *Project Rachel* ministry of the Archdiocese of Boston extends a special invitation to women suffering from the pain of a past abortion to attend a *Come to the Waters of Healing* one-day retreat. Spring date May 30. Locations are confidential. Limited to ten participants per retreat. For more information, contact *Project Rachel* at 508-651-3100.

## "Be Not Afraid"

***"It is in giving that we receive." St. Francis of Assisi***

**St. John's Food Pantry** Dear brothers and sisters, we believe that the Church is like family. Members of the family are always there for each other, especially in times of need. As members of Saint John the Baptist Food Pantry, we want you to know we are here for you. We live in very difficult times when the corona virus has impacted so many people physically, emotionally and economically. We understand that many people, businesses and lives have been impacted tremendously because of this, especially those who live paycheck to paycheck. Please know we are here to help with whatever we can regarding offering groceries for those who are in need. Please contact us at (617-590-7004) if you need anything or you know of anybody who might need help, especially those who are alone or whose jobs have been impacted by this epidemic. We are one family in good days and difficult days. **We love you and we pray for you.**

### *Baby Bottle Boomerang*

Due to the current situation involving the coronavirus pandemic, we are asking parishioners who are able and interested in contributing to the Baby Bottle Boomerang Campaign, to please forward your donations directly to Friends of the Unborn. This will help to get much Needed funds to them more quickly. Of course, for those of you who prefer, you can still hold onto your baby bottles and bring those in with your donations once we are free to return to our normal church routines. **Friends of the Unborn address is P.O. Box 692246, Quincy, MA 02269.** You can also donate on-line: <https://www.friendsoftheunborn.org/> Any amount you can spare will be greatly appreciated! Thank you!

# This Week

Here is what YOUR COLLABORATIVE FAMILY IS DOING (StJ'sCares) and how you can BE SUPPORTED and BE A HELPING HAND!

1. We have created an online parishioner database so we can stay in regular contact with our parishioners. We would like to invite you to register for regular communications from our Collaborative Team, to keep you updated on what is happening in our Collaborative, and the unique ways we are seeking to serve and support you and fellow parishioners during this difficult time (e.g. Collaborative updates, inspirational vlogs, live broadcast of Holy Mass from our Collaborative, prayer resources, and all the amazing things we are doing). Please go to this link to register; <https://forms.gle/fbeyqN6TPvyejnXcA> 2. We have established a "St. Js Cares" email account for those in need of: prayer intentions or assistance with daily needs, or if you know of someone who is isolated and alone and needs us to reach out to them. Please email: [SaintJsCares@gmail.com](mailto:SaintJsCares@gmail.com) 3. We are grateful for the great work of the St. John the Baptist Food Pantry. St. John's is ready and willing to assist the needs of our parishioners. Please see the bulletin article for more info. 4. We are working with local Knights of Columbus to do can drives to stock our food pantry at St. Joseph's. 5. We have established a GoFundMe page in support of our Hunger for Justice Program to raise money for the St. Joseph Food Pantry. Please give on the St. Joseph webpage 6. How is your prayer life? This is a time for intense prayer, making or reclaiming Jesus as the foundation of our lives. With Jesus as our foundation, we can withstand any storm. Can you give him 1% or more of your day in prayer (15 minutes plus). There are prayers resources in this bulletin to help you. 7. We are providing live-streaming of Sunday and Daily Mass from the Convent of the Daughters of Mary of Nazareth. We will also provide daily videos to feed you spiritually. Please register for our Collaborative emails as mentioned in bullet 1. 8. Please follow us on our various Social Media handles:

- A. St. John the Baptist Facebook Page
- B. Saint J's Families Facebook page
- C. SaintJs\_Families Instagram
- D. SHINE\_official Instagram
- E. Frmatt4boston twitter
- F. FrMatt2003 YouTube

*Let's be helping hands! Please check in with your neighbors, especially the elderly and those most vulnerable with a simple phone call. We want to honor the need for social distancing and do not wish to cause panic. But we can call or write a simple note asking how they are doing, leaving our number and asking them to call if we can be of help.*

## Saint J's Phone Campaign:

We are using this time to update our Parish Database and check in with each Parishioner. If you would like to join our call team, please reach out to Michaela at: [michaelainquincy@gmail.com](mailto:michaelainquincy@gmail.com)

## Solidarity Prayer for a Pandemic

*May we who are merely inconvenienced  
remember those whose lives are at stake.*

*May we who have no risk factors  
remember those most vulnerable.*

*May we who have the luxury of working from home remember  
those who must choose between preserving their health or  
making their rent.*

*May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when  
their schools close  
remember those who have no options.*

*May we who have to cancel our trips  
remember those that have no place to go.*

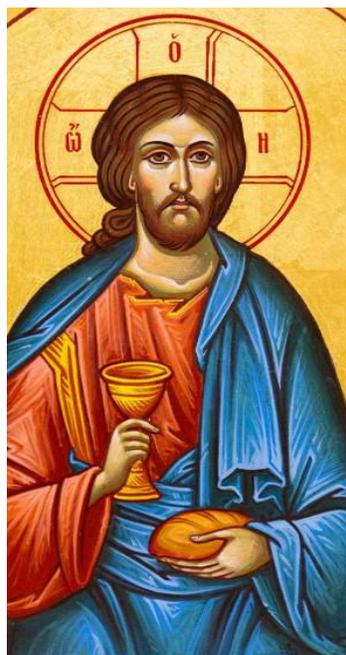
*May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the  
economic market  
remember those who have no margin at all.*

*May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember  
those who have no home.*

*During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms  
around each other,  
let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our  
neighbors.*

*Amen.*

Please note, we continue to celebrate all Mass intentions that were booked without a congregation present. Know that your loved ones are being remembered as well as all those affected by the Coronavirus.



## Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,  
I believe that You  
are present in the  
Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things,  
and I desire to receive  
You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this  
moment receive You  
sacramentally, come at least  
spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were  
already there and unite  
myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be  
separated from You.

Amen.