



The Shell

An e-letter for

Saint James the Greater Church,
3565 Hubble Road
Cincinnati, Ohio

April 13, 2020

I hope each of you had a wonderful Holy Week and Easter Sunday. I bet we can all agree it was the strangest Triduum and Easter Sunday because we could not share in the great liturgies of those days in person.

It was put into perspective for me, at least a little, by something pointed out to me. The person remarked that now we know what its like for so many Catholics around the world who do not have regular access to the celebration of Mass. Pope Francis held the special Synod of Bishops last fall on the needs of the people of the Amazon. One of the issues discussed was that Mass may be celebrated in remote areas of the Amazon only every few years. Yes, years. Here we are straining to get by without Mass every Sunday for a month or so and one Holy Week while many thousands of Catholics have no idea what it is like to have Mass every Sunday. And I don't think they have livestreaming, either!

On a lighter note....Go to YouTube Videos and find *DeWine & Amy Opening Theme*. Even if you can't recall the old TV series on which it is based, it is still funny.

There is a new electronic bulletin on the parish website. Please check it out and continue to support our advertisers in the bulletin.

God bless and don't forget to pray the *Memorare* at Noon.

Father Nolker

Notices

THE BISHOPS OF OHIO HAVE EXTENDED THE SUSPENSION OF PUBLIC MASSES UNTIL AND INCLUDING MAY 3.

Deaths

John Bosse, husband of Jean

Died on April 10, 2020.

The Drive-Through

Our parish “drive-through” on Palm Sunday was a success. A pick-up was filled with grocery items for the Corpus Christi Church foodbank, which is where our Holy Thursday food collection goes each year. \$1,100 was also donated for the foodbank.

The contributions to our St. Vincent de Paul Society were also very generous. This replaced their 5h Sunday collection on March 29.

Hundreds of plastic Easter eggs holding small religious symbols were handed out by the LIFE Ministry and hundreds of the Little White Books were given out, too. What a great project. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped and everybody who drove through.

Still Waiting for Baptism

Please remember our Elect who would have been baptized, confirmed and received Holy Communion for the first time at the Easter Vigil. They have been in preparation for since late last summer for this great moment. Now they are still waiting. We wait for permission from the Archbishop to celebrate these sacraments with them. Please keep them in your prayers: Sonia Baker, Sam Edwards, Austin Helfrich, Sabrina Helfrich and Bridget Ramirez;

First Communion

Currently, we do not have a new date for First Communion. That will be set when instruction about the Sacrament can resume and we are sure the children are fully prepared. Some parishes have set tentative dates for September or October based on the presumption that instruction won't begin until the new school year. We think it is important to wait until we are sure how and when the catechesis will be completed.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Sunday April 19 is Divine Mercy Sunday. Celebrate by praying the Divine Mercy chaplet at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon. You can also watch this on EWTN at 3pm. If you are not familiar with the Divine Mercy Chaplet, the following website explains how to pray this with your rosary. <https://www.thedivinemercy.org/message/devotions/pray-the-chaplet>

Our Prayers

Don't forget to pray for all the essential workers who are keeping things going. Of course, we think of the doctors, nurses and all the medical professionals, the firefighters and police officers. There are all those people working in groceries and drug stores. There are all those running food out to us as we pick up lunch or dinner from restaurants. There are the people picking up garbage at our homes and the stores, funeral directors and tons of factory workers making essential products. There is an amazing number of people doing what they and we think of as ordinary work. In this time, they are not ordinary, but are extraordinary as they are out in the public every day. Please pray for them.