

From the desk of Fr. Paulo...

My brothers and sisters in Christ, 2 weeks have passed since we have last gathered and celebrated - offered the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass on Saturday Vigils & Sundays. Most of all to hear the Word of God proclaimed to us and the Holy Eucharist fed to us. As Catholic Christians, the Holy Mass & indeed the Holy Eucharist is the summit of our life.

The truth is, not able to participate and receive them is a deprivation of nourishment for our souls but an impoverishment of magnitude of more to our spiritual life than the loss of material wealth.

Perhaps because in our modern age we have become so desensitized to what is abhorrent to God...such as abortion, immorality and idolization of creatures in place of God, that we are in danger of falling into accepting such practices as norm and fall further away from what true life is about, life in God.

I urge you all strongly to not fall away from the practice of keeping faithful to the most basic essential of our Catholic Faith, prayer!

Keeping consistent faithfulness to the basics; morning, evening and night prayers are just part of it. Also, to Scripture readings, Rosary, Stations of the Cross and Divine Mercy are necessary stones that build strong foundations to our faith.

Fathers and mothers should lead their children, their families in prayers daily. In this time of our need to stay home can be an opportune time and grace from God "to go back to the basics" that is to pray as a family, "revisit our Faith we may have taken so often for granted".

I, for one have found this time as grace moments to enrich my spiritual life and to be more reflective of what really is the essence in this earthly life. Also, to realized more concretely in heighten awareness of the "helplessness of man-woman" no matter of what authority, wealth or intelligence they wield, in the face of life, without God.

We are living in unprecedented times, for not in past wars, in past pestilences, and in social upheavals which were so many have the Catholic faithful ever been deprived of Holy Mass-Eucharists, confessions, baptisms, weddings and the like.

I am not trying to be pessimist or a naysayer, but if we are not aroused and awoken from our spiritual slumber, especially in the light of all that is happening around us, in the world,...diseases, wars, political upheavals, persecutions of faith and imprisonments of millions, then we are fools.

"So always be ready, because you do not know the day your Lord is coming." (Matthew 24:42-43) "Be on the alert, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong." (1 Corinthians 16:13).

Enclosed are letter from our Bishop Larry Silva DD, informing us of the directives regarding the coming celebrations of Holy Week and Easter Triduum.

There will be no public church celebrations of the above solemn feasts and the parish churches will be closed until April 20th.

I know this is very difficult in so many ways but we all can together grow in faith if we embrace this -trials, the Cross and become a better Catholic Christian that we have been called from our baptism.

Have a blessed week in the Lord

Fr. Paulo ofm cap.

5th Sunday of Lent March 29, 2020 SCRIPTURE READINGS

1. EZEKIEL 37:12-14
2. PSALM 130:1-8
3. ROMANS 8:8-11
4. GOSEPL JOHN 11: 1-45

If you have not yet pick up the Book: Rediscover Jesus An Invitation by Matthew Kelly (187 page) we still have them for those who wish to read it for spiritual readings.

Divine Mercy & Chaplet, The Hour of Mercy and To Eternity prayer pamphlets are still available.

You may still e-mail and make a time for you to pick them up through the parking lot drive through.