



Sacred Heart Catholic Church Farmer City, Illinois

Office Information:
502 North Monroe
Clinton, IL 61727

Land Line: 309-928-3855
Emergency Phone: 309-838-3661

Pastor - Rev. James P. Henning, O.F.M. Conv.
Deacon - Scott Whitehouse

Website: www.sacredheartfc.org
E-Mail: shchurch612@frontier.com

Fifth Sunday of Lent March 29, 2020



Hi! It's Fr. Jim, remember me?

On March 13, 2020, Bishop Jenky sent a letter announcing that all public masses were to be suspended. No end date was noted in this letter. As we have all heard, the COVID-19 virus is very serious and does not discriminate. In addition to the public masses being suspended, our Friday Stations of the Cross for Lent have been suspended along with the traditional 'simple' meal. For us, the Church, this is especially hurting; because it is in the Lenten Season that we should be promoting more public times of prayer rather than fewer. Our current situation calls us to be creative and at the same time faithful to what the Church teaches and encourages us to do.

Prayer, Fasting and Works of Charity is our Lenten theme. How do we pray when our churches are closed to public worship? Of primary concern is the reception of Holy Communion. Printed on the back of this bulletin is a prayer for an **"Act of Spiritual Communion."** I encourage you to view mass on television or listen to one on the radio and then pray this prayer. It is the best we can do in this situation. **Pray:** also on the back is a prayer to St. Roch. Our Catholic Tradition has always taught about the power of a Novena. I offer this as a suggestion. There are many other Novena prayers for us to offer at this time. Of course there is the Rosary - Mary's gift to us to petition her Son for our needs. Why not use this time to develop the "habit" of praying this powerful prayer. **Penance:** we are asked to do penance by not doing what we really want to do - to go to Mass. Sounds ironic, but in this crisis, it is a penance we are all asked to do. **Acts of Mercy:** 'phone a friend,' check in on a neighbor or relative who may need some help with shopping for groceries. Even in this pandemic there are always ways to be of assistance.

Personally I feel frustrated that I am unable to see you each week. I miss our encounters at Mass. No matter the distance, please be assured that you are daily in my prayers. Three times a day, I pray for the people of Sacred Heart and St. John's Parishes. I am your Pastor, and the best way I can see to shepherd you right now is by lifting you up in prayer.

In consultation with the Parish Staff, we will attempt to weekly send this type of bulletin to you. It is important that we keep in touch. If there is a specific prayer request, please contact the Parish Office, leave a message with the secretary who will make sure it is brought to my attention. Together with the help of God we will weather any storm.

Be well and be at peace.

Fr. Jim Henning

Fr. Jim's Private Mass Intentions

Sunday, March 29th

Fifth Sunday of Lent

+ Tom Walsh

by Dave & Bonnie Trenkle

Tuesday, March 31st

+ Carol O'Connor

by Dave & Bonnie Trenkle

Thursday, April 2nd

+ Matt Yeagle

by Charles & Mamie Yeagle

First Friday, April 3rd

+ Mary Wayne

by Cale & Diane Wayne

Sunday, April 5th

Palm Sunday

+ Rick Coit

by Kay Schumacher

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

4/4 Cornelia Harpenau

4/5 Frank Sylvester



Parish Staff

Parish Secretary.....Vanessa Ophorst

Parish Trustees.....David Trenkle

Caleb Wayne

Parish Pastoral Council

PresidentRon Coit

Parish Office Hours

Monday - 9 am to 3 pm

Wednesday - 9 am to 3 pm

Weekend Mass Schedule

Confessions upon request after Mass

Sunday10:30 am

St. Roch was marked with a red cross on his chest at birth. When his parents died he inherited great wealth which he gave to the poor. St. Roch also devoted his life to helping the plague-stricken and sick. St. Roch's miraculous powers were well-known, as was his birthmark turned trademark. He cured with the "Sign of the Cross." During a 14th century plague in Italy, St. Roch came upon one of the most affected towns. According to the *Catholic Encyclopedia*, St. Roch "devoted himself to the plague-stricken, curing them with the sign of the cross. He next visited Cesena and other neighboring cities and then Rome. Everywhere the terrible scourge disappeared before his miraculous power."



Novena to St. Roch

O Blessed Saint Roch, Patron of the sick, have pity on those who lie upon a bed of suffering.

Your power was so great when you were in this world, that by the Sign of the Cross, many were healed of their diseases.

Now that you are in Heaven, your power is no less. Offer to God our sighs and tears and obtain for us the physical and spiritual health we seek:

Share your request here ...

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

St. Roch: Pray for us, that we may be relieved from all diseases of body and soul. (*Repeat three times*)

Lord Jesus, *may thy will be done.*

Lord Jesus, Divine physician, *Have mercy on us.* (*Repeat three times*)

Pray the following: Our Father ... Hail Mary ... Glory Be ...



Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.