

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Mother's Day to all our mothers, grandmothers and all those who have shown a mother's care and love for others. May God bless them for their dedication and love in caring for us. In normal times we would be celebrating first Holy Communion for our youngsters. We look forward to scheduling this in the future when our churches are open, which we hope will be soon!

May is Mary's month. Not only is she the mother of Christ but was honored as Mother of the Church by the Vatican II Council. Pope Francis in 2018 designated the Monday following Pentecost as the feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church. Not only did Mary consent to God's plans for her to be the mother of the Savior, she was also a faithful disciple of her son, Jesus, throughout his life, death, and resurrection and may have been present in the upper room when the Holy Spirit came down upon those gathered there, strengthening them to preach the good news of God's love and mercy for all people. During this Easter season what better way to honor Mary, besides being a true follower of her son, than to pray the Rosary daily using the Joyful, Sorrowful, Luminous, and Glorious Mysteries.

Pope Francis offered this prayer to Mary.

"O Mary, You alone shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus' suffering, and persevered in your faith.

'Protectress of the Roman people', you know our needs, and we know you will provide, so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us. For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen"

"We fly to your protection, O Holy Mother of God; Do not despise our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from every danger, O Glorious and Blessed Virgin."

God Bless,

Fr. Francis Walsh

Fr. Bill Jerse

Deacon Peter Travalik