

### **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

It is with a heavy heart that on account of the coronavirus spreading throughout our country that since Friday, March 20, all regularly scheduled public celebrations of the Catholic Mass and devotions have been suspended until further notice. I will continue to celebrate Mass privately for the intentions in our bulletin and of our community and the Church.

### **MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Sunday, May 17</b>	Samuel Parkman Shaw
<b>Monday, May 18</b>	John H. Veyette
<b>Tuesday, May 19</b>	Rev. Mark Harvey
<b>Wednesday, May 20</b>	Fr. Ed Freeman; Fr. Jim Beauregard
<b>Thursday, May 21</b>	Fr. Joe Lagor; Fr. Ed Moore
<b>Friday, May 22</b>	John Taft
<b>Sunday, May 24</b>	David Darajky, by Paul & Bev Regan and James Malone & Gerard Lynch

### **MARY'S MONTH, THE MONTH OF MAY**

It's been a long-standing tradition in the Catholic Church to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary during the month of May. During this month of May, let us all rededicate ourselves and our parish to Mary, asking for her help and her protection. Along with Pope Francis I would encourage you as individuals and as a family to pray the Rosary. What better prayer, along with the Rosary, to speak to her daily during this month would be the one written by Saint Bernard, his famous 'Memorare'.

*Remember, Oh most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known, that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, we fly unto thee, oh Virgin, of virgins, our Mother. To thee do we come, before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful, oh Mother of the Word Incarnate. Despise not our petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer us. Amen.*

### **THE SOURCE OF OUR HOPE**

When our Easter journey began five weeks ago, we encountered fearful apostles hiding behind locked doors, a doubting Thomas, and two disheartened disciples returning to their old way of life in Emmaus. Over time, doubt and uncertainty have been transformed into a bold belief which has driven the apostles to the ends of the earth to preach the Good News. In today's first reading, Philip is led by faith to go to Samaria, an enemy of the Jewish people, to share the Gospel message. As a result, many Samaritans were cured and "there was great joy in that city." When people encounter the Gospel of Jesus Christ, enemies become more than friends – they become brothers and sisters in Christ. St. Peter, who had once denied even knowing Jesus, is transformed by the resurrection and mercy of Jesus. In the second reading, St. Peter tells us, "Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope but do it with gentleness and reverence." As we celebrate this Sixth Sunday of Easter, we know the source of our hope is the risen Jesus. Our mission – today and every day – is to share that hope with gentleness and reverence with everyone we meet.

### **DID YOU KNOW THAT...?**

Over the course of history, five flowers became associated with the Blessed Virgin Mary: the Lily, Rose, Iris, Periwinkle and Lady's Slipper. Lilies symbolize purity and innocence. Roses represent heavenly joy. Irises were often called 'sword lily' and were used in depictions of Our Lady of Sorrows. Periwinkle is also known as 'Virgin Flower' and its blue color is associated with Mary's blue garments. Lady's Slipper was originally known as "Our Lady's Slipper" and a popular legend suggested that they first sprang forth at the touch of Mary's foot.

**STAY HEALTHY AND SAFE. OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU.**