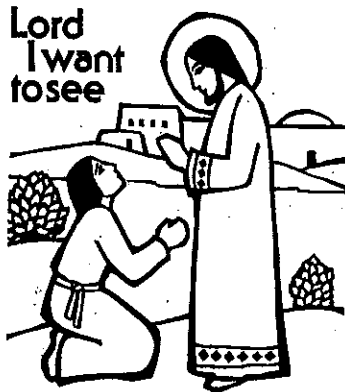


FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 22, 2020



MASS INTENTIONS

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, PRIVATE MASSES WILL BE CELEBRATED BY FATHER JANUSZ...ONE PER DAY BETWEEN ST. PHILIP AND ST. LAWRENCE. YOU WILL BE CONTACTED IF YOUR MASS INTENTION HAS TO BE RESCHEDULED.

St. Philip Intention this Week:

Wed 25 +Tom Kowieski by Family

**PRIEST ON CALL MARCH 22
FR. JANUSZ
715-456-1450**

**OUR CHURCH WILL BE OPEN FROM
8:00 A.M. – NOON EVERY DAY UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**

**THE PARISH PICTORIAL
DIRECTORY IS BEING
POSTPONED UNTIL FALL**

**MARIAN CENTER PERPETUAL
ADORATION CHAPEL WILL BE
CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE.**

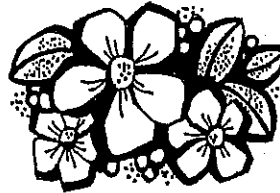


**ST. PHILIP & ST. LAWRENCE
Gun Calendar Raffle Update...**
Tickets are going fast!! St. Philip proceeds will be used for basement repairs. Contact Steve Koback if you would like to purchase a ticket...715-340-9415.

ALL FRIDAYS OF LENT are days of abstinence from meat.



ITEMS FOR THE LENTEN DONATION DRIVE... infant and elderly and essentials and hygiene needs and new towels, as well as **Rice Bowls and Mite Boxes** should be brought to church when weekend Masses resume.



GROTTO NEWS... We will again advertise on Relevant Radio from May-October. Donations are being accepted to cover

the cost of \$215 per month...checks payable to the Grotto.

PICNIC BASKET RAFFLE... Items and cash are still being collected. Checks should be made out to St. Philip Picnic Fund.



THE PICNIC RAFFLE will be accepting donations of cash or gift cards for additional prizes. If you would like to donate, please contact Linda Hobbs 435-3267 by April 15.

SCRIP NEWS:
**IF YOU NEED TO PURCHASE SCRIP,
CONTACT JILL MORAN AT
715-435-3787.**

IN THE ABSENCE OF WEEKEND MASSES, please go to Relevant Radio, EWTN or WAOW-9 at 5:30 a.m., CW 9.2 at 6:00 a.m., or Public Access Channel 961 or Digital Channel 985 at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays.

CENTRAL
HOME IMPROVEMENTS, INC.
Roofing • Siding • Windows • Doors.
Insulation • Seamless Gutters
Additions and More
715-423-6640
TRUSTED FOR QUALITY SINCE 1942

**ADVERTISER
OF THE
WEEK!!**

Dear Parishioners:

I am writing this letter with sad news from Bishop Callahan. Due to the uncertainty of the Covid-19 virus, the Bishop has cancelled ALL MASSES AND PARISH EVENTS until further notice.

I will continue to celebrate a private daily Mass praying for the Mass Intention for the day and all parishioners. If you want to be present for your Mass intention, you will have to call Kathy at 435-3797 to have that Mass rescheduled. Tentatively the date set for resuming Mass is May 1. This could change at any time given the situation we are in. I am very aware how this difficult time will be depriving the faithful of Holy Communion and the Sacraments. Please be patient and understanding during this time of crisis.

I encourage you to continue supporting your parish during this crisis. Please send your offering envelope by mail to P. O. Box 165 or drop at church in the offering boxes. The parish bills will still need to be paid.

The church will be open from 8:00 a.m. to Noon every day throughout this time for private prayers and devotions. I encourage you to meet as a family especially on Sundays and say prayers. The Rosary is always a good prayer to pray. Remember your parish and parish family in those prayers as well.

As of today, I am saddened to say that all Easter public celebrations have been cancelled. The Chrism Mass and Easter Triduum will be live streamed on the Diocese of LaCrosse website at <https://diolc.org>.

If you have an emergency or an anointing that needs to be done, you may reach me at 715-456-1450 or the parish phone 715-435-3286.

God Bless you all,
Father Janusz Kowalski

Father will be hearing Confessions by appointment at St. Philip...Wednesdays at 9:00 and Saturdays at 3:00. Call parish office to set up a time: 715-435-3286. At St. Lawrence he will be available on Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 7:00 a.m. Call 715-421-5777 to schedule.



HOLY COMMUNION OF DESIRE

Saint John Paul II mentions Spiritual encouragement from Saint Teresa of Jesus: "When You do not receive Communion, and do not participate in Mass, the most beneficial thing is the practice of spiritual communion (...)" It seems that since the Holy Father mentions this kind of Holy Communion (for the first time after Vatican II), in some way recommending it, we could apply this practice in our spiritual life, of course remembering that sacramental communion is to be first.

How to receive it: Just desire, this is why we also call it a communion of desire. Such a request and such a desire I have in my heart that the Lord Jesus would come to me and be with me, although I cannot receive Him

sacramentally. I can ask him such a request, listening to a radio or television Mass, or praying. It is good to confess your unworthiness to he Lord Jesus first and only then ask Him to come to the soul.

**Formulas for spiritual communion:
I want to receive you, Lord, with the same purity, humility and devotion as Your Holy Mother received you, with the spirit and ferventness of the saints.**

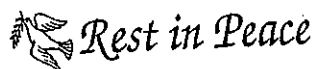
O my Jesus, I believe you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all and I want to have You in my soul.

Since I can't hold you sacramentally right now, come to my heart spiritually.

I love You already present in my heart and I unite myself completely with You; never let me move away from you.

Lord Jesus, the secrets and perfection of your paths. O Lord, I believe, I trust, I praise You. I regret all my sins. O Blessed Sacrament Divine Sacrament, always be Your glory and thanksgiving.

My Jesus, I believe in You in this Blessed Sacrament! I hope in Your Grace and Mercy! I love you above all! For the love of you I regret all my sins! I'd rather die a thousand times than offend you. I want you. Come, my Jesus! Come to my soul!



OUR PARISH EXTENDS PRAYERS & SYMPATHY to the family & friends of Dave Szemborski. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on March 19. May perpetual light shine on him.

CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES TO Patrick & Patricia Hoffmann on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary on March 21. May God Bless them!



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Dale TerMaat, Janice Haupt, Patrick Hoffmann, Mary Lou Glaza, Dan Keinhofer, Irene Jakusz, Jim Wiskerchen



CHURCH SUPPORT - MARCH 15

Adult Envelopes	-	\$2740.00
Offertory Collection	-	\$ 311.75
Bulletin Ads	-	\$ 850.00
Stations	-	\$ 88.00
DAA Rebate ©	-	\$1861.00

We need \$4,650 per week to meet our expenses.

If you haven't made a pledge yet for the DAA, would you please consider helping this year. All money given now comes directly back to the parish.

Diocese of LaCrosse – Office of The Bishop
Peace and Good in the Love of God.

As you might suspect, this is a note regarding the future and our course in line with current secular legislation and some new ecclesial norms for our Diocese. Some of you have already made contact with me (and I thank you for your comments and advice) regarding the lifting of the obligation for Mass attendance in the Diocese. I am writing to follow up on some of your thoughts to go further and announce some new regulations for the future.

In light of the continued concern surrounding the coronavirus, and the advice of medical experts, across the country, and especially in our State, all Masses in the Diocese of La Crosse will be canceled beginning 20 March 2020 until further notice. I do encourage each of you to say a private Mass daily for your people, the diocese and the world. All fish fries, parish gatherings, etc. are also canceled. This development follows Governor Evers decision to prohibit gatherings of more than 10 people at all public meetings. It is also intended to provide clarity and consistency throughout the nineteen counties that comprise our Diocese in western and north central Wisconsin.

Funerals should continue to be celebrated for the faithful, only reducing the amount of people in attendance to below 10.

I ask you, my priestly brothers, to offer more and creative times for hearing confessions. Invite healthy volunteers to come forward and give the church a cleaning at various times during the day in service to those who wish to take advantage of making a private visit of for coming to confession. I ask the local Deans to make contact with public health officials (hospitals, doctors, etc.) and local nursing home directors to make provisions for visits with the sick and elderly for sacramental anointing and or Viaticum.

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, 7 April 2020 and will be open only to the Deans. Deans or their representatives can bring their oil stocks to the Cathedral on 7 April or drop them off at the Diocesan Center prior to that date. Members of the Curia will fill them as usual. The Chrism Mass (as well as all other Masses and services of the Triduum) will be live-streamed electronically for viewing on the diocesan website, diolc.org.

I know that there will be economic hardships on many of our parishes and we are working with our development office to provide an online giving option for all of our parishes as well as with St. Ambrose Financial to see what kind of relief or assistance they may be able to offer during this challenging period. As soon as we get more details, we will keep you updated.

I do once again advise you to instruct the faithful in all charity to follow along in faithful prayer and patience. This, of course, is unprecedented in our lives and we rely on the providence of Almighty God and His Holy Mother. Please stay well and take every precaution to do so. Be aware of my prayers and my confidence in our protection under the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

With fond affection for all of you and your great ministry for God's people,

I am Fraternally yours in Christ,

William, Your Bishop





State of Wisconsin
Department of Health Services

Tony Evers, Governor
 Andrea Palm, Secretary

EMERGENCY ORDER #5
PROHIBITING MASS GATHERINGS OF 10 PEOPLE OR MORE

1. Under the authority of Wis. Stat. § 252.02(3) and at the direction of Governor Tony Evers, I, Andrea Palm, Secretary-designee of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, order a statewide moratorium on mass gatherings of 10 people or more to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This order supersedes any previous Emergency Order that conflicts with this order.
2. Effective at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, all public and private mass gatherings are prohibited in the State of Wisconsin.

“Mass gathering” is any planned or spontaneous, public or private event or convening that will bring together or is likely to bring together 10 or more people in a single room or single confined or enclosed space at the same time.

All gatherings that bring together or are likely to bring together less than 10 people in a single room or confined or enclosed space at the same time must:

- a. Preserve social distancing of 6 feet between people, and
- b. Follow all other public health recommendations issued by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and Centers for Disease Control.

Voluntary cancelation, closure, or limitations on size of gathering beyond the requirements of this order are permitted.

3. Effective at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, all bars and restaurants shall close in the State of Wisconsin, except as provided below for restaurants.
4. Effective at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2020, all public and private schools and institutions of higher education in the State of Wisconsin shall close for instructional and extracurricular activities at 5:00 p.m. Such institutions shall remain closed for the duration.

Homily - Fourth Sunday of Lent

A student approached his master with a big problem. He said, "I'm totally depressed. I don't get anything out of your teaching and I never get good results. I cannot do anything. Everyone says I am useless and I think the same. I am losing hope. Please, help me!" The master answered, "I am busy now, I am having difficulties and things to do, come back later." The student replied, "Master, I have no more strength!"

And so the master said, "I have an urgent matter, can you help me? If you help me then I will help you." The student replied, "How can I help you?" The master said, "I have to give one ducat to a certain creditor tomorrow, I have no money but I do have a ring. If you can take the ring and sell it on the market for no less than one ducat then I will help you; but you can't take less than one ducat." This seemed simple to do and the student thought that if I did this then the master would change his mind about me. So, he took the ring and went. The student asked at one place, then at the next. He went to a hundred places, but everywhere they only offered him 25% of the value of the ring. He returned to the master sad and explained what had happened to him at the market. The master said, "You know what, there is another buyer, the best of the best. Go to him." The resigned pupil went thinking that it would only be the same as in the market. But when the new buyer took the ring in his hand he began to observe it. He checked, examined, and measured. Finally, he told the student to tell his master that I can give 75 ducats. The student was surprised and said, "How?" The buyer then added, "I can do even better and do 85 ducats today but that is all I have." The student took the ring and returned to the master. He was amazed, and smiling said to the master, "You will not believe what happened!" The master replied, "Know exactly what happened. As long as you look for people who don't know the value of what you are trying to give them, they underestimate it. That is why you have become discouraged and depressed. To know your value you have to follow and be with others who know your value as well."

When we are looking for our value, we try to find it in people who don't know us or know much about us. They do not know our hearts. The only expert who knows everything is God. Only He can tell us how much we are worth! And that worth is much more than you could ever expect.

In today's gospel, a blind man must make a life decision. The choice is who he wants to follow and who is most important to him. The same choice was given to all the Pharisees, scribes and people. The final decision, made by the blind man, was not with his eyes but with his heart that Jesus is the one he wants to follow. God's grace comes to everyone; you can be blind, or sighted. The question is whether I see this grace, and do I use it? Am I grateful to Him from whom I received!!!