





Church of the Holy Cross

30 Ward Avenue
Rumson, New Jersey 07760

March 29, 2020

(732) 842-0348

www.holycrossrumson.org

webmaster@holycrossrumson.org

Parish staff are available
to answer phone calls
and answer email.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

In our Lenten journey we have reached the Fifth Sunday, characterized by the Gospel of the resurrection of Lazarus (Jn 11: 1-45). It concerns the last "sign" fulfilled by Jesus, after which the chief priests convened the Sanhedrin and deliberated killing him, and decided to kill the same Lazarus who was living proof of the divinity of Christ, the Lord of life and death. Actually, this Gospel passage shows Jesus as true Man and true God. First of all, the Evangelist insists on his friendship with Lazarus and his sisters, Martha and Mary. He emphasizes that "Jesus loved" them (Jn 11: 5), and this is why he wanted to accomplish the great wonder. "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him out of sleep" (Jn 11: 11), he tells his disciples, expressing God's viewpoint on physical death with the metaphor of sleep. God sees it exactly as sleep, from which he can awaken us. Jesus has shown an absolute power regarding this death, seen when he gives life back to the widow of Nain's young son (cf. Lk 7: 11-17) and to the 12 year-old girl (cf. Mk 5: 35-43). Precisely concerning her he said: "The child is not dead but sleeping" (Mk 5: 39), attracting the derision of those present. But in truth it is exactly like this: bodily death is a sleep from which God can awaken us at any moment.

This lordship over death does not impede Jesus from feeling sincere "com-*passion*" for the sorrow of detachment. Seeing Martha and Mary and those

who had come to console them weeping, Jesus "was deeply moved in spirit and troubled", and lastly, "wept" (Jn 11: 33, 35). Christ's heart is divine-human: in him God and man meet perfectly, without separation and without confusion. He is the image, or rather, the incarnation of God who is love, mercy, paternal and maternal tenderness, of God who is Life. Therefore, he solemnly declared to Martha: "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die". And he adds, "Do you believe this?" (Jn 11: 25-26). It is a question that Jesus addresses to each one of us: a question that certainly rises above us, rises above our capacity to understand, and it asks us to entrust ourselves to him as he entrusted himself to the Father. Martha's response is exemplary: "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, he who is coming into the world" (Jn 11: 27). Yes, O Lord! We also believe, notwithstanding our doubts and darkness; we believe in you because you have the words of eternal life. We want to believe in you, who give us a trustworthy hope of life beyond life, of authentic and full life in your Kingdom of light and peace.

We entrust this prayer to Mary Most Holy. May her intercession strengthen our faith and hope in Jesus, especially in moments of greater trial and difficulty.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

Unbind him!

Marian Candles

Marian candles burn for one week before Mary's statue in the Prayer Garden at the head of the Memorial Pavers. Intentions for the week are announced at Saturday morning's mass and published in the bulletin.

Anthony Lubrano by Helen Maresca
Special Intention by Cavalieri Family

Pray for the Sick

Catherine O'Malley, Eleanor Blass, Sophia Gonzales, Joey Weikel, John Wiseman, Marisa Murphy, Daniel Bonifacio, Jennifer Denis, Dawn Lloyd, Sandra Foster, Alessandra Giunta, Grace Fasullo, Maryann Allegra, John McCoy, Marilyn Hull, Elizabeth McNally, Eugenia Kelly, Lee West, Sacka Duffy.



Mass Intentions

28-Mar	9:00 AM	B. J. THOMPSON	Mr & Mrs Brian George
28-Mar	5:00 PM	THOMAS KARLO, SR.	Family
29-Mar	8:00 AM	ROSEANNE GIALANELLA & THOMAS GIALANELLA	Trish Sullivan
29-Mar	10:30 AM	MAY & SALVATORE BRACCINI	Mr & Mrs Ken Stromsland
29-Mar	12:00 PM	ZOLTAN POPE	Robert & Samantha Reidy & Family
29-Mar	5:00 PM	KATIE EGAN BERGMAN	The Hollingsworth Family
29-Mar	7:00 PM	FOR THE PARISHIONERS	
30-Mar	9:00 AM	MICHAEL KENNEY	Mr & Mrs Brian George
31-Mar	9:00 AM	HAROLD E. BOYLE	Keavey Family
1-Apr	9:00 AM	TERESA QUAGLIA	MM Marco Crincoli
2-Apr	9:00 AM		
3-Apr	6:00 AM	ANTHONY LUBRANO	Helen Maresca
3-Apr	6:00 AM	SPECIAL INTENTION (L)	Cavalieri Family
3-Apr	9:00 AM		
4-Apr	9:00 AM		
4-Apr	5:00 PM	MARCEL WAGNER	Modin Family
5-Apr	8:00 AM	CONSTANCE SULLIVAN	Trish Sullivan
5-Apr	10:30 AM	KEVIN CONERY	Maryjane Gallo
5-Apr	12:00 PM	ZOLTAN POPE	Mr. & Mrs. James Moody
5-Apr	5:00 PM		
5-Apr	7:00 PM	FOR THE PARISHIONERS	

Masses are being said privately.
Mass intentions are still open. Email the parish office.

Liturgy Schedules

Church open	Monday - Friday	8:30 AM - 7:00 PM	
	Saturday	12 noon - 7:00 PM	
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Monday - Friday Thursday Saturday	9:00 - 10:00 AM 6:00 - 7:00 PM 5:00 - 6:00 PM	
	Sunday	10:30 AM - 11:30 AM 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	

Routine Exposition of the Blessed sacrament in the evening has been discontinued, since it was begun before the state-wide ban on work. When more people return to work, we will consider resuming these hours.

Let Us Pray

Our Lenten period of abstinence and fasting has turned out to be more drastic than anyone realized. Fasting from the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist wasn't on anyone's list of penances. Yet, we have come to realize how tenuous our hold is on many earthly treasures and that the Eucharist comes to us in earthen vessels, the sacraments of the Church and Christ's priests.

We give thanks for these graces and long for the time when they can flow freely through the Mass once again. Meantime the church is open for private prayer and for a schedule of Eucharistic adoration. Please stop by and make a visit.

One blessing of the electronic age is the ability for most of us to stay in touch even during "social distancing," so please reach out to people you may see at church but aren't accustomed to contacting through social media. We should pray for each other, especially those who are alone, afraid or sick during this challenging time.

Electronic Giving

Should the shutdown of businesses and public gatherings go on much longer, everyone's finances will suffer and the church is no exception.

As you understand, many of the church's fixed costs continue even when our weekend collections do not. We have already or will curtail non urgent spending, but paying our mortgage expense, our school subsidy and our employees is not easy to postpone or cancel. Our business manager will be presenting a plan to the Finance Council with the help of the diocese to cope with our shortfall of cash. It will partly depend on what kind of debt relief is available in the bills being considered by Congress. When the details are finalized, I will report them.

Please, if your finances allow, continue to contribute to the support of Holy Cross parish through participation in online giving. If you have not previously used the service, check our parish webpage www.holycrossrumson.org to sign up. Thank you to new participants in this program and to all who continue to support our parish. We need everyone's help to weather this storm.





Delacroix (left) and Rembrandt (above) each painted versions of Christ's stilling the storm on the Sea of Galilee. Though it sometimes may seem as if we are all alone and Christ has abandoned us, this parable consoles us that Jesus is still in the boat with us and to have confidence in that basic truth. God is always with us.

