

Downtown Dayton Catholic Parishes

March 22, 2020

4th Sunday of Lent

Pastor: Fr. Angelo Anthony, C.P.P.S.

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Matthew Keller, C.P.P.S.

In residence: Fr. Ken Pleiman, C.P.P.S.

Served by the Missionaries of the Precious Blood

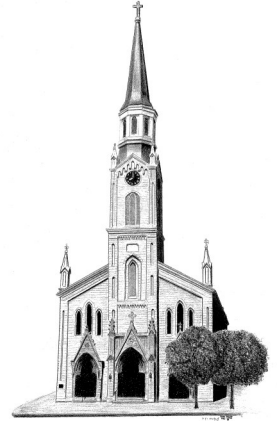
www.cpps-preciousblood.org



Emmanuel Church 1837



St. Joseph Church 1847



Holy Trinity Church 1861

A Prayer by Pope Francis asking the intercession of the Blessed Mother for Italy and the world during the coronavirus pandemic.

O Mary,
you always shine on our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain,
keeping your faith firm.
You, Salvation of the Roman People,
know what we need,
and we are sure you will provide
so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
we may return to joy and to feasting
after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who has taken upon himself our sufferings
and carried our sorrows
to lead us, through the cross,
to the joy of the resurrection.
We seek refuge under your protection,
O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas -
we who are put to the test - and deliver us
from every danger, O glorious and blessed
Virgin. Amen

Next Week's Readings:

1 Samuel 16:1b,6-7,10-13a; Psalm 23:1-6; Ephesians 5:8-14;
John 9:1-41

Confessions Schedule:

Emmanuel - Saturday 4-5:00 PM

St. Joseph - Monday through Saturday 11:30-12:30 PM

Emmanuel Church

149 Franklin St. - 45402

Office: 937-228-2013

Web Site: www.emmanuelcatholic.com

E-mail: parishoffice@emmanuelcatholic.com

Deacon Rusty Baldwin

Br. Matt Schaefer, C.P.P.S. DRE & Bookkeeper

Mary Beemsterboer, Secretary

Dennis Pyles, Maintenance

Michelle Carner, Music Director

Holy Trinity Church

272 Bainbridge St. - 45402

Office: 937-228-1223

Web Site: www.holytrinitydayton.org

E-mail: busmgr.holytrinity@gmail.com

Judith L Trick, Business Manager

Marina Dodaro, Secretary

Lynda Middleton, DRE/Pastoral Associate

Krista Schupbach, Music Director

Shaughn Phillips, Region 7 Evangelization &

Young Adult Ministry

Saint Joseph Church

411 East Second St. - 45402

Office: 937-228-9272

Web Site: www.stjosephdayton.org

E-mail: stjosephday@sbcglobal.net

Rita Zimmerman, Business Manager

Bill Baron, Maintenance

Bradley Wilson, Music Director

To Register for any parish please contact the parish office

For Baptisms, Weddings or Ministry to the Homebound
please contact your parish office.

Dear Parishioners:

In a letter to pastors from Archbishop Schnurr we have been asked to advise our parishioners that, "The Catholic bishops in the State of Ohio, in consultation with the governor and public health officials, have made the very painful decision to suspend the celebration of all public Masses throughout Ohio, at least through Holy Week and Easter."

This was a difficult decision for the Archbishop to make, "realizing that it is yet another source of suffering in an already trying time." "Given the grave health risks we are currently facing, especially with regard to public gatherings being limited to 10 or fewer people," the Archbishop believes it is a necessary step in the interest of the common good that will help to curb the spread of this Covid-19 virus.

This crisis is different from the tornadoes, the KKK rally and the Oregon District mass shootings last year in that those were events that happened quickly and we were left to pick up the pieces. This crisis will be with us for weeks and months and so we need to pace ourselves appropriately for the long haul. Our faith is the source of our strength and God will lead us along the path of life. Let's continue to hold one another in prayer and all our parishioners and those impacted by this health crisis.

Our Parish Leadership Team for the Downtown Dayton Parishes has met to put together a plan to respond to these challenges. Because this is an ever changing situation we will try to keep you as informed as much as possible through our parish websites, Facebook pages, emails and direct mail. We are working on live-streaming Mass from our parishes on a rotating basis. Those times will be announced soon.

Currently, our churches are open for private prayer using the following schedule:

Monday-Tuesday 7:30 AM until 11:00 AM at Holy Trinity Church
Wednesday-Friday 7:30 AM until 11:00 AM at Emmanuel Church
Monday-Saturday 11:00 AM until 2:00 PM at St. Joseph Church (Confessions 11:30-12:30)

Saturday 4:00-6:00 PM at Emmanuel Church: Confessions at 4:00.
Sunday 11:00-2:00 PM at Holy Trinity Church
 Each day after the church closes the pews and doors will be cleaned and sanitized. Please only use the areas marked for prayer.

Our pastoral team is working on posting various spiritual presentations via the internet using our parish websites and Facebook pages. We are putting together materials to support families as the Domestic Church, brief daily reflections, live-streaming video presentations, prayer tools like the Stations of the Cross, Chaplet of the Precious Blood, Catechetical materials for youth and an on-line retreat on the Virtue of Hope.

We are also pulling together a list of parishioners over the age of 75 and will be making phone contact with them to check-in on them and to see if they have any needs or would simply like to talk. We encourage everyone to reach out to your elderly neighbors. We are also organizing outreach through the sending of cards and if necessary will work with St. Vincent de Paul to help any parishioners who are in need of food. These days can be depressing and worrisome and so we want to help one another hold close to our faith in God.

During this time, our bulletin will take on a different format to help provide you with ways of staying close to the Lord and continuing your growth in faith while at home. Let's continue to watch out for one another and let the parish offices know if you are aware of someone in need of assistance or pastoral support. God has guided the Church through centuries of challenges, and He will continue to be faithful to his covenant of love by guiding us through these difficult times.

Keeping the Virtue of Hope Strong

The virtue of hope is a gift of the Holy Spirit and given to each of us through God's covenant of love. Do we use the gift, or do we allow it to be dormant? The flowing checklist offers some helpful ways to keep the virtue of hope strong in your life.

A Checklist of Hope

- Cherish memories and the power of imagination. They help us stay in touch with God's faithfulness and the dream God has placed in our heart which shapes how you and I choose to live.
- Nurture a healthy awareness of yourself as a child of God. Remember and celebrate that you are created in the image and likeness of God.
- See the cross as a gift to be embraced and appreciated. As in the experience of childbirth, God is transforming your suffering into joy.
- Tend to a healthy spiritual life. Spirituality is about God's desire for us and what you and I do with this tug and pull we feel from God.
- Appropriately respond to fear. Live in the truth that you are redeemed in the Blood of Christ and that nothing can separate us from God's love.
- Choose to live in an environment of patience. This involves an active, attentive posture to life; staying with and living through whatever is before you with open ears, eyes, hands and heart.
- Enter into the practice of simplicity. Find God in the most common of activities and experiences.
- Surround yourself with beauty which puts you in touch with the ultimate beauty which is found in Jesus Christ.
- Spend time in relationships that form community. Your heart expands in love as you reach out to others. It helps you realize that you are part of a much bigger mystery; you don't have to carry your burdens alone.

St. Peter in Chains Cathedral in Cincinnati will have live streaming of Mass daily. The Cathedral's website is <https://www.stpeterinchainscathedral.org/>. The Masses are also archived so that you can view them at a later time.

- * Daily Mass Monday – Saturday at 8AM
- * Spanish Mass Sunday at 9:30AM
- * Sunday Mass Sunday at 11AM

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How do new parishioners register for an account?

1. Visit [FORMED.org](https://www.formed.org)
2. Click Sign Up
3. Select "I Belong to a Parish or Organization"
4. Find your parish by zip "45402" or name "St. Joseph"
5. Enter your email - and you're in!

Already have a FORMED Account?

1. Visit [FORMED.org](https://www.formed.org)
2. Click Sign In
3. Enter your email
4. Click the link in your email
5. You're in! No more passwords!

*Walk
in the
light
of the
Lord*
see John 1:9-12

REGION ANNOUNCEMENTS continued...

Lenten Pilgrimage: Shanghai, China

Sheshan Basilica of Mary in Shanghai is one of the most prominent pilgrimage shrines in China. In May 2007, Pope Benedict XVI released a Letter to Chinese Catholics. He asked that May 24 each year be celebrated as a World Day of Prayer for the Church in China. He chose May 24 because it is the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians, who is venerated at the Shrine. In 2008, the Pope composed a prayer to Our Lady of Sheshan, which includes: "Our Lady of Sheshan, sustain all those in China, who, amid their daily trials, continue to believe, to hope, to love. May they never be afraid to speak of Jesus to the world, and of the world to Jesus. In the statue overlooking the Shrine you lift your Son on high, offering him to the world with open arms in a gesture of love. Help Catholics always to be credible witnesses to this love, ever clinging to the rock of Peter on which the church is built."

This past few weeks has been challenging and stressful for all of us. But in spite of this we have miles to report. The Spiritual miles 261, total to date 1446. Exercise miles 75, total to date 114. Starting this week we will be awarding 5 miles for each time you are praying using the PRAYER TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN that the Pope has written. It appears in this bulletin. For the duration of the Corona Virus precautions we are asking that you email your miles to bethwitch1962@gmail.com. Remember the pilgrimage lasts to Pentecost Sunday. The Region 7 Health Committee is urging you to follow the guidance of your health care providers, city, state government officials, and at [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov). Keep up the good work in staying healthy.

Pray for the Men and Women Serving in the Military

Rebekka Anders	Nicholas Kern	David Musgrove
Yves Benimana	Morgan Konsdorf	Diane Nyirasimbi
Michael Borgert	Cody Landers	Anthony Pelfrey
John Carner	Greg Marcus	Jessica Pruitt
Kelli Anne Cartuyvelles	Alex McGarvey	Aimee Storm
Jon Chachula	Zachary McIntyre	Susan Varmuza
Laura Chachula	Matthew Melvin	Justin Williams

Thought for the Week

Psalm 72:5-6 "You are my hope, Lord; my trust, God from my youth. On you I depend since birth; from my mother's womb you are my strength; my hope in you never wavers."

Pray with Sunday's Gospel During This Time:

Shaughn will be extending his Sunday Gospel Prayer Sessions (GPS) for the rest of the pastoral region during this time. We will gather on Zoom, a video-conferencing platform. The times each week are as follows: Sundays at 3pm, Tuesdays at 11am, Thursdays at 9am. Please email Shaughn at sphillips@daytontowntowncatholic.com if you are interested with your desired day and time to pray. Shaughn is happy to assist with helping you learn how to use Zoom and get you connected with our pastoral region!

While no public Masses are being celebrated, the Priests will continue to offer your Mass Intentions in a private Mass daily:

Orville "Babe" Perkins	Damian Gripp
Florence & Russell Donauer	Liv/Dec. Sauer/Gast Families
Rigoberto Munoz	Int. Michael D. McDonald
John Shampton Jr	Kathy Smolik
Zimmerman & Slattery Families	Sherry Heeter
Lauren Powers	Cy and Ann Klosterman
Mary & Bud Loges, daughter Peggy	Steven Gottschlich

For our Parishioners, our country and the world during this pandemic

If you prefer to have your Mass Intention(s) rescheduled, please call the parish office.

EMMANUEL CHURCH

Generous Contributions for March 15, 2020

Weekend Offertory:	Collection	SVD
	\$3,896.00	\$389.60

*Many thanks for the generous spirit of our parishioners.
Frs. Angelo and Matt*

Prayer List

Ralph Berry	Gary George	Phyllis Rieger
Teresa Bond	Craig & Mary Hathaway	Mike Riahle
Daniel Branch	George Hendrix	Tony Rocco
Bernard Chachula	Virginia Hicks	Eric Rosenthal
Michael Dalessio	Thomas Ledinsky	Randy Rosenthal
Rick Emerick	Judy Marks	Molly Schneider
Annette & John Fohl	Mike McDonald	Jan Timerding
Liz Fulton	Patrick McDonald	Daniel
Cindy Gardina	Brian Napier	Helen

Nominations for Parish Pastoral Council—We are accepting nominations for parishioners to serve on the Parish Pastoral Council and the various Commissions of the parish. In the next few weeks we will publish descriptions of the various commissions to assist parishioners in their discernment about serving on the council or one of the commissions. Please give serious consideration to sharing your gifts and talents to help strengthen the life of our parish. Nominations will close on April 19, 2020. Elections take place on May 16-17, 2020.

Description of Parish Pastoral Council. This is an advisory body that assists the Pastor in assessing the spiritual and temporal needs of the Parish and in making evaluations and recommendations to the Pastor. The Council also makes recommendations for the improvement and quality of Parish life and the effectiveness of Parish services and policies and fosters communication among the Pastor, staff and parishioners. The Council meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM for approximately 90 minutes.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Generous Contributions for March 15, 2020

Weekend Offertory:	Budget	Collection
	\$6,400.00	\$3,407.83

YTD excess or (deficit): **(\$3,256.65)**

*Many thanks for the generous spirit of our parishioners.
Frs. Angelo and Matt*

Our Parish Pastoral Council - You still have time to place your name in nomination for a seat on the Council. If you would like to see what is involved in each commission, go to our webpage, Holytrinitydayton.org, select Parish Pastoral Council from the menu on the left and read about the different commissions. If you are interested in placing your name in nomination, please email busmgr.holytrinity@gmail.com.

Please continue to bring your aluminum beverage cans for recycling. You can drop them by the parish garage. Please do not put them in the recycle bin at the back of rectory

Thanks to all who are making donation to the Emmanuel food Pantry, whether in the form of non perishable food items or a monetary gift. Your gifts to this worthy cause are much appreciated.

Boiler Fund Update:

Goal: \$73,000	Pledged/collected: \$70,805.00
We are inching our way toward the goal only \$2,195.00 to go!	
Can you help us?	

God has guided the Church through centuries of challenges, and He will continue to be faithful to his covenant of love by guiding us through these difficult times.

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

Generous Contributions for March 15, 2020

Weekend Offertory: Collection
\$5,270.00
Charity: \$ 65.00

*Many thanks for the generous spirit of our parishioners.
Frs. Angelo and Matt*

Our potluck dinner for April 4th has been cancelled.

The church will be open for private prayer Monday through Saturday from 11:00—2:00 with Exposition and confessions from 11:30-12:30.

Because things are changing daily please visit our website www.stjosephdayton.org and Facebook page for daily updates.

*Please keep the following people in your prayers.
Call the rectory if you would like to be added to the prayer list.*

Cheryl Anderson	Michael Culp	Victors Polovskis
Ken Belcher	Catherine DeMange	Tony Riggs
Katie Blauser	Rita Downs	Janet Rudy-Gerrard
Bob Bruns	Christine Durr	Karen Thomas
Mooneen Caulfield	Bennett Hart	Sharon Wenzel
Kristina Cole	Vanessa Padgett	Mark Williams

Family Life During Covid-19:

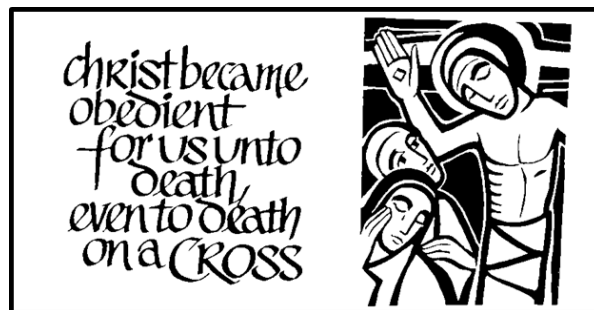
It seems everything has changed in addressing Covid-19, including our church and family life. While we are asked to stay home from Mass this is an opportunity for us to focus on the “Domestic Church.” What is the Domestic Church?



Simply put; The term “Domestic Church” refers to the family, the smallest body of gathered believers in Christ. Though recovered only recently, the term dates all the way back to the first century AD. The Greek word ecclesiola referred to “little church.” Our Early Church Fathers understood that the home was fertile ground for discipleship, sanctification, and holiness.

During this penitential season think of how you and your family can be “Church” at home? We will provide weekly suggestions for you and your family during this time to help you grow in your love for one another as Christ loved the Church!

Idea for the Week: On Sunday watch Mass together as a family on one of the many live-streams available or do your own family’s Liturgy of the Word with the Sunday readings as a family. Afterwards spend time discussing what struck you about the readings or how you hear God’s heart speaking to you through the readings. Finish with your own family’s intentions and the Our Father! Find a space in your home to create a home altar with a crucifix, candles, icons or any other sacramentals special to you as a family.



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Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Lent

Jn 9:1-41

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him. We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" —which means Sent—.

So he went and washed, and came back able to see. His neighbors and those who had seen him earlier as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit and beg?"

Some said, "It is," but others said, "No, he just looks like him." He said, "I am." So they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?" He replied, "The man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went there and washed and was able to see." And they said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I don't know."

They brought the one who was once blind to the Pharisees.

Now Jesus had made clay and opened his eyes on a sabbath. So then the Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and now I can see."

So some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, because he does not keep the sabbath."

But others said, "How can a sinful man do such signs?" And there was a division among them.

So they said to the blind man again, "What do you have to say about him, since he opened your eyes?"

He said, "He is a prophet."

Now the Jews did not believe that he had been blind and gained his sight until they summoned the parents of the one who had gained his sight.

They asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How does he now see?"

His parents answered and said, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind.

We do not know how he sees now, nor do we know who opened his eyes.

Ask him, he is of age; he can speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone acknowledged him as the Christ, he would be expelled from the synagogue. For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; question him."

So a second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give God the praise!

We know that this man is a sinner." He replied, "If he is a sinner, I do not know.

One thing I do know is that I was blind and now I see." So they said to him,

"What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them,

"I told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again?"

Do you want to become his disciples, too?" They ridiculed him and said, "You are that man's disciple; we are disciples of Moses! We know that God spoke to Moses, but we do not know where this one is from."

The man answered and said to them, "This is what is so amazing, that you do not know where he is from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if one is devout and does his will, he listens to him. It is unheard of that anyone ever opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he would not be able to do anything." They answered and said to him, "You were born totally in sin, and are you trying to teach us?" Then they threw him out.

When Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, he found him and said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered and said, "Who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?"

Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, the one speaking with you is he."

He said, "I do believe, Lord," and he worshiped him. Then Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see might see, and those who do see might become blind."

Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not also blind, are we?"

Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you are saying, 'We see,' so your sin remains."

Homily from Fr. Angelo

One of my favorite parables of faith and hope is that of a young father who took his five-year old daughter out for a ride in a sailboat on a beautiful sunny afternoon. As they skipped across the water the young girl squealed with delight, "Daddy, Daddy, I can LOOK farther than my eyes can SEE."

This parable is a beautiful description of what faith and hope is all about. When we look upon life with the eyes of faith we can look farther than our eyes can see, we can trust that we have a future full of hope because of God's covenant of love sealed in the Precious Blood of Jesus.

This is important for us to remember as we experience the reality of Covid-19 or Corona virus. Our lives are no longer skipping freely across the ocean of life. For many of us, our boat has come to a stop and now we feel the strong, forceful winds of the pandemic tossing us about like a cork in choppy waters. We need an anchor to give us stability and strength.

In Christian art, the virtue of hope is often imaged as an anchor. Hope is a virtue, a gift from God that is freely given to all of us. It is an important gift of the Spirit for us to pray for during these times of uncertainty, as the shadow of the cross darkens our world.

This Lenten season we did not have to go looking for a sacrifice to bring to our Lenten journey; it came to us in the form of Covid-19. In the midst of this storm, we take a step back and ask, "How have I lost sight of the person God created me to be?"

- Have cataracts formed over my eyes through bad habits or a cynical attitude?
- Have I closed my eyes to others in selfishness?
- Have I been lulled to sleep in a world of instant gratification?
- Has my need for control kept me from seeing God's will?
- Has my vision become blurred by an unhealthy use of social media?
- In my pride, have I failed to see each person as a child of God?
- Has fear led me into darkness and eroded my trust in God?

In this season of grace, we hear the invitation to return to the Lord with all our heart. Jesus desires to restore our sight so that we can live as children of the Light in this world.

Imagine yourself coming home late at night in total darkness. You think you know your way around the house and so you don't bother to turn on the lights as you head to bed. Little did you know that one of the kid's toys is in your path and you trip over it and fall to the ground. Had you turned on the lights there would not have been any problem navigating your way around the room. It's not that the light changes anything in the room and yet, it makes a big difference in how you relate to the space.

The same is true in our lives of faith. When we look at life with the eyes of faith it doesn't change the reality we must deal with, but it does change how we choose to live within that reality. With the gifts of faith, hope and love we can see that God is the one in control and that God's covenant of love, sealed in the Precious Blood of Jesus, tells us we are not alone in our suffering and that he will always lead us to life. Hope does not shy away from suffering in life. And so, let the crucifix be the anchor you tie yourself to in the midst of this storm and learn to depend on God.

In the second week of Lent, we had the story of the Transfiguration of Jesus, a vision of what would be in the Kingdom of God. The disciples were invited to look farther than their eyes could see so that when the cross came their way, they had a memory that would sustain them as a gift of hope, a vision for the future. As a people who live by hope, we hold the vision of the resurrection in our hearts because we know the end of the story!

With the clear eyes of faith, we can say with confidence that the day will come when we'll hear the words "anchors aweigh," to pull up the anchor of hope that's holding us safe and secure in this current storm and to begin sailing freely in life once again, as a people changed and made new, through the saving Blood of Christ.