

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF
ST. PIO OF PIETRELCINA

REVEREND JEREMIAH N. MURASSO, PH.D., ED.D., PSY.D., PASTOR
REVEREND PATRICK KANE, PAROCHIAL VICAR
REVEREND ZACHARIAS PUSHPANATHAN, PAROCHIAL VICAR
REVEREND MICHAEL S. GALASSO, IN RESIDENCE
MR. WAYNE SANDFORD, PERMANENT DEACON



6th

SUNDAY OF EASTER

**"I will ask the Father, and he will give you
another Advocate to be with you always, the
Spirit of truth." - Jn 14:16-17a**

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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SIXTH SUNDAY IN EASTER

May 17, 2020

Welcome... You enter these doors...not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. God is your heavenly Father. Come, then with joy in your heart and thanks on your lips into God's presence, offering God your love and service. Be grateful to the strong and loyal ones who, in the name of Jesus Christ, built these churches of worship and to all who have beautified them and hallowed them with their prayers, praise and financial sacrifices. Ask God's blessing on those who love these places of faith as the inspiration of their labor, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. May that blessing rest on you, both on your going out and coming in.

Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, May 16 - Vigil - Sixth Sunday of Easter

4:00pm OLOP + Albert Vitale
by Family

4:30pm SVDP + Christopher Silva
by Joe, Carol & Nate

SUNDAY, May 17 - Sixth Sunday of Easter

8:00am OLOP + Linda Carlson & Console Family
by Anthony & Kathy Mauro

9:00am SVDP + Ruth, Robert, Irene B. & Joseph Heller, Sr.
by Family

10:00am OLOP + Andelko Lukac
by Daughter, Helen Nguyen

11:00am SVDP + Anthony Bruno
by Family

11:45am OLOP + Mamie & Charles Mazzucco
by Children

MONDAY, May 18 - St. John I, Pope

8:00am OLOP + Barbara Spambanato
by Porto Funeral Home

8:00am SVDP + Laura Anderson

TUESDAY, May 19 - Weekday

8:00am OLOP + Bill Martingano
by Lou & Anne Pacelli

8:00am SVDP + Marion Martone
by SVDP Morning Mass Devotees

WEDNESDAY, May 20 - St. Bernardine of Siena

8:00am OLOP + Anna & William Allen, Sr.
by Marianne Hall

8:00am SVDP + Fr. Thomas Mitchell

THURSDAY, May 21 - Ascension of the Lord

8:00am OLOP + Louis Squeglia
by Porto Funeral Home

8:00am SVDP + Fr. Robert Vargo

6:00pm OLOP + Katherine Ryan
by DiModugno Family

SATURDAY, May 23 - Vigil - Seventh Sunday of Easter

4:00pm OLOP + Maryann Pacelli
by Lou & Anne Pacelli

4:30pm SVDP + Thomas Culligan
by Elizabeth

SUNDAY, May 24 - Seventh Sunday of Easter

8:00am OLOP + Anthony Mauro & Mauro Family
by Anthony & Kathy Mauro

9:00am SVDP + Camera & Spadacenta Families
by Madelyn & Vincent Camera

10:00am OLOP + Rita, Cal, Sr. & Joseph Tripp
by Family

11:00am SVDP + Alice Petrelli & Adeline Ferraro
by Family

11:45am OLOP + Katherine Ryan
by DiModugno Family

STEWARDSHIP

With public Masses cancelled, please continue to support the parish. We need your support as the operations continue on a daily basis. In addition, we want to continue to pay our loyal staff. Please mail-in your contributions. Online giving is also available at, <https://stpioofpietrelcinaeh.com/> and click on the **GIVE** button.

Thank you to the many of you who have been so generous and responsive in these difficult times, so far we have received \$5,433.00



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 [1]/1 Pt 3:15-18/Jn 14:15-21

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Jn 15:26—16:4a

Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c -8 [7c]/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Jn 16:16-20

Ascension: Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/Eph 1:17-23/Mt 28:16-20

Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [8a]/Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10 [8a]/Jn 16:23b-28

St. Pio of Pietrelcina Parish

Address: 355 Foxon Road, East Haven, CT 06513

Phone Number: (203) 469-0764

Office Hours:

Foxon Road: Mon-Fri 8:00-12:00 & 1:00-3:00

Taylor Avenue: Mon. & Fri. 10:00-2:00

E-Mail: stpioofpietrelcina@gmail.com

Fr. Murasso's Message Board

Important Message

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena
25th Anniversary
9-Day Novena



The **9-day novena** to *Our Lady of Perpetual Help* will take place for **9 evenings** beginning **Friday, June 19**, and continuing for 9 consecutive evenings through **Saturday, June 27** at Our Lady of Pompeii Church.

Mass will be celebrated at 6:00pm each evening for those who would like to be in attendance. The novena to *Our Lady of Perpetual Help* will start at 7:00pm.

The hour-long novena includes:

- ◇ Novena Prayers
- ◇ Benediction
- ◇ Recitation of the Rosary
- ◇ Enrollment in the Brown Scapular.

The final day, Saturday, June 27, will conclude with Mass at 10:00am followed by a rosary procession (*weather permitting*).

Fr. Murasso's Message Board

Important Message

Saint Bernadette Church

It is with great joy that I announce to you that we are moving in the direction of a merger with our sisters and brothers of Saint Bernadette Church.

Our parish of St. Pio of Pietrelcina will now have three campuses with three worship sites: Saint Bernadette, Saint Vincent de Paul and Our Lady of Pompeii. This is exciting!

I know that you will join me in extending a heart-felt welcome to all the faith-filled parishioners of Saint Bernadette who will add so very much to our Catholic community of Saint Pio of Pietrelcina.





The Candles burn this week for these special intentions:

Our Lady of Pompeii Candles

Sanctuary Lamp (Right Side) ~ In Memory of Billy Richmond & For All the Souls in Purgatory
Sanctuary Lamp (Left Side) ~ In Memory of the Mauro & Elko Families
Chapel ~ Sacred Heart of Jesus ~ Our Lady of Perpetual Help Icon ~ Our Lady of Pompeii Picture ~ Robert Mucka, Sr.

St. Vincent de Paul Candles

Sanctuary Lamp (Right Side) ~ In Memory of the Balzano & Avitable Families
Sanctuary Lamp (Left Side) - In Memory of Ronald Paolillo
Statue of Our Lady's Altar ~ Anna Tobia by Children & Grandchildren
Statue of St. Joseph's Altar ~ Paul Spadacenta by Madelyn & Vincent Camera

**Midnight Run
Taylor Avenue Campus**

Midnight Run will continue on the 2nd Monday of the month from St. Vincent de Paul Church. Anyone wishing to make bag lunches (please mark on the bag what type of sandwich it is, ham, bologna, etc.) also, water & juice boxes are needed. Please drop off to Sue Stacey, between 7:30pm & 7:40pm. The location for the drop-off is the church parking lot. Please & *Thank-You* for continuing donations! For the Winter months, we need the following: MEN'S flannels, warm clothing, socks, underwear, blankets as well as travel size toiletries. If you are interested in joining us at the Men's Shelter that would be awesome! Any questions, please call 203-214-1762. Once again thank-you & God bless!

**Midnight Run
Foxon Road Campus**

On the last Monday of each month, we bring 75 bagged lunches to the Columbus House Overflow Shelter.

Donations Needed:

- ShopRite Gift Cards or
- Gallon Size Ziploc Bags
- Quart Size Ziploc Bags
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Juice Pouches
- Raisin Boxes
- Fruit Cups & Pudding Cups
- Granola Bars
- Individual Packaged Cookies, Crackers or Chips

We are also looking for small amounts or full skeins of yarn, it will be used to make hats and scarves for the midnight run. Please leave your donations at any entrance of the church. Thank you.

Midnight Run is the **LAST** Monday of **EVERY** month from Our Lady of Pompeii Church from 6-7 pm.

Thank-you for being so generous!

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

10 DAYS: DECEMBER 2 - 11, 2020

**VISITING: HAIFA • TIBERIAS • GOLAN HEIGHTS • HAZARETH
MASADA • BETHLEHEM • JERUSALEM**



Hosted by
REVEREND JEREMIAH N. MURASSO, PH.D.

\$3399 FROM NEW YORK*

**Air/land tour price is \$2699 plus \$700 port taxes/airline merchandise*

For a More Information, Please Contact:

Reverend Jeremiah N. Murasso

Tel: (860) 977-7675

Email: jeremiah.murasso@aol.com



DON'T MISS THIS TRIP OF A LIFETIME!!

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Nick Vessicchio, Sally Ann Fallon, Lynette Ely, David T. Boyle, Richard Lucibello, Denise Ceescence, Carmel Ferretti, Bryan Surprenant, Sharon Spadacenta, Marie & Charles Zambrano, Marie Sunderland, Helen Langelo, Annette Brissette, Brian Savo, Gerry Andrea, John Umlauf, Alan Poirier, Joseph Benson, Connie Rasimas, Jane Pyka, Harry Clark, Lou DiNola, Peter Pepe, Vincent Perricone, Virginia Klump, Robert Savino, Geraldine Licciardi, Joanne Cretella, Joseph Anyzeski, Alice Tietjen-DeSenti, Faith Gibson, Fran Sofo, Elizabeth Kuen, Deborah Sanning, Paula Ferrara, Patricia Brasile, Joann Mazzucco, Tina Marie Fionia, Elizabeth Nucolo, Joseph Parise, Frank DelGrego, Moira Ferguson, Danielle Joubert, Nelson Eddy, Margaret Lendroth, Katherine Hungerford Picciano, Frances Polaski, Sharon Fillion, Pauline Condon, Rose Marie Monaco, Paul Spadacenta, Anna Izzo, Angelo DeMatteo, Carmen & Patricia Riccitelli, Patricia Aulenti, Michael Pascale, Alyce Richmond, Catherine Leach, Mark Schettino, Patty DiMilo, Rose Rogalski, Elaine Smith, Karen Rescigno, Virginia Pisano, Joan Baisley, Deanna Baldassare, Kim Hughes, DJ DiVincenzo, Sgt. Anthony Rybaruk, Philip DeMilo & Sally DeMilo, Anna Concelmo, Sally Ann Corcoran, Paul Castiglione, Anna Marie Nappi, Brian Higney, Rich Tortora, Andrea Palmucci, Fr. Brad Pierce, Frances Randi, Denise Bailey, Peg Dmytruk, Mary Mack, Joseph Peterson, Judith Robbins, Marion Mahl, Gloria Ranfone, Eugene Baron, Jr., Paula Ruddock, Pamela Willis, Laura Luzzi, Jose Maisonet, Anita Della Ventura

Please send prayer requests to stpioofpietrelcina@gmail.com so that our parishioners and friends can be remembered in our prayers.

From the Pen of Fr. M.

Reverend Jeremiah N. Murasso, Ph.D., Ed.D., Psy.D.

*If You Love Me, You Will Keep my Commandments...
(John 14: 15-23)*

The gospel account according to St. John for this sixth Sunday of Easter continues with *Jesus' Farewell Discourse*, which begins with chapter 14, and culminates with the *Priestly Prayer of Jesus* in chapter 17. In order to appreciate the *full flavor of Jesus' message*, it is only fitting that our reflection includes the verses that precede today's account beginning with verse 1 of chapter 14.

In last weekend's gospel account (John 14:1-12), Jesus begins his farewell message by telling his disciples not to let their hearts be troubled. The *troubled heart* about which Jesus speaks, as we reflected upon last weekend goes beyond sadness or mere sentiment. Coming from the Greek *tarasso*, the word *troubled* implies a deep-rooted feeling of hopelessness and uncontrolled despair resulting in a void; a spiritual and emotional emptiness.



The word *tarasso* was used to describe Jesus' feelings as he stood before the tomb of his friend Lazarus. John tells us that Jesus became *perturbed and deeply troubled* (John 11:33, 38).

The expression of deep-felt hopelessness on the part of Jesus is consistent with John's dualistic tension that permeates the Fourth Gospel. The conflict of opposites: light and darkness; truth and falsity. Jesus is *troubled* because he finds his ministry at odds with the Prince of this world, Satan. Death is the absence of life and where there is no life, there is no Truth. Jesus prayed:

"Father, thank you for hearing me. I know that you always hear me" (John 11:42-43).

This is the message that Jesus now gives to his disciples in verse 1. *"Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith, then, in me."* This is a command: Believe! For if you believe, your faith will enable you to discern and transcend evil and untruth in the world.

Faith in Jesus must become man's spiritual barometer for living as a Christian in our twenty-first century world. Jesus is telling his disciples not to allow the world to infringe upon man's relationship with God. The world as we know it is constantly changing, unlike God's *Word*.



Unlike God's *Word*, the world can and often becomes a source of distraction and confusion for man as he strives to achieve happiness. The consequences are demonstrated in man's choices of fleeting forms of pleasure, rather than cultivating values that lead to real happiness. Jesus is Truth and as long as man believes he will stay connected to Jesus.

What a powerful message for us who live in the twenty-first century. How often we allow the world and the daily stressors to distract us from what really counts. How often we permit anger and fatigue to disrupt the focus of our lives with Jesus. As Christians, we fail to realize how powerful we are in possessing the *Spirit* of Jesus within our very souls. For if we really believe, we, as Jesus told his disciples, could move mountains.

"Amen, I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to the mountain, 'be moved,' and it will be moved. Nothing will be impossible for you" (Matthew 17:20).

How often do we give into the stressor of the moment; thus, permitting the Prince of this world to get between *our* faith and *our* God? In John 14:15, Jesus begins by telling his disciples that the test of their love will be showed by their desire to *fulfill* his commandments.



Jesus is not talking about a set of precepts here. He is speaking about a *way of life* that includes him. Jesus speaks of a *frame of reference*, a *spiritual disposition* that is rooted in and emanates from an intimate and personal relationship with him.

To love Jesus is to know him. A relationship with Jesus like any human relationship demands that one spend time with the other; dialogue, get to know the other, live for the other, desire to be with the other. The problem with the world is that the world does not know Jesus because it has failed to embrace him and love him, to spend time with him and to understand his word.

The reward for belief in Jesus is a life lived in Truth. When we live our lives in search of Truth, there is no (*tarasso*) troubled heart, no spiritual deprivation or void. When the trials and tribulations of life come our way, being men and women of faith, we can weather the storm, forge ahead and move yet, another step closer to Jesus.



Mother Teresa once commented that while storms will come our way from time to time as we journey through life, our prayer should be directed not at on asking God to remove the storm, rather, to give us the strength to walk through the storm.

To assure the disciples that they are on the right track in Jesus' absence, the Father will send the *Paraclete*, the *Spirit of Truth* who will not only protect the disciples against the Prince of this world but will also lead and keep them in the Truth. The world, however, cannot see (from the Greek, *theorein*, meaning having bodily or spiritual sight), the Paraclete because the Paraclete is not a material entity.



The world does not have the *spiritual insight* as the disciples do and as men and women of faith do. Consequently, the world consistent with St. John's theme is blinded to the Truth; thus, exists in darkness and unlike the believer is subject to death.

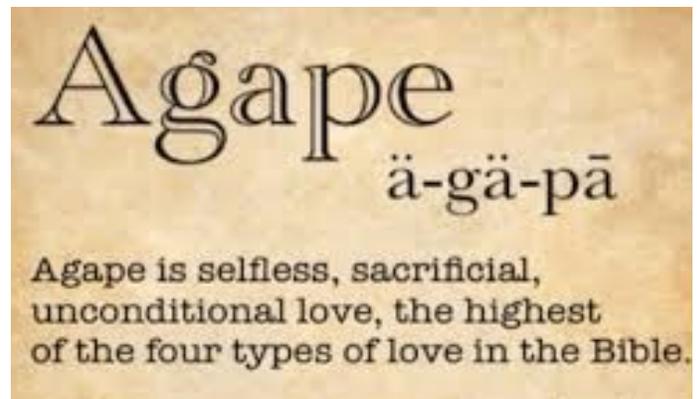
The unbeliever, the one who permits the world to distract him/her from God, is the one who experiences a *troubled heart*: the void that exists in the depth of man's being at the level of soul. This void emerges from and at the same time perpetuates feelings of aloneness in the midst of and against the forces of the world. This is spiritual emptiness at its worst. In other words, one feels like an orphan without parental support.

Jesus says:

- *Have faith!*
- *Believe in me!*
- *Love me!*
- *Keep my commandments...And*
- *The Father will give you the Paraclete; the Spirit of Truth...*
- *I shall not leave you orphans.*

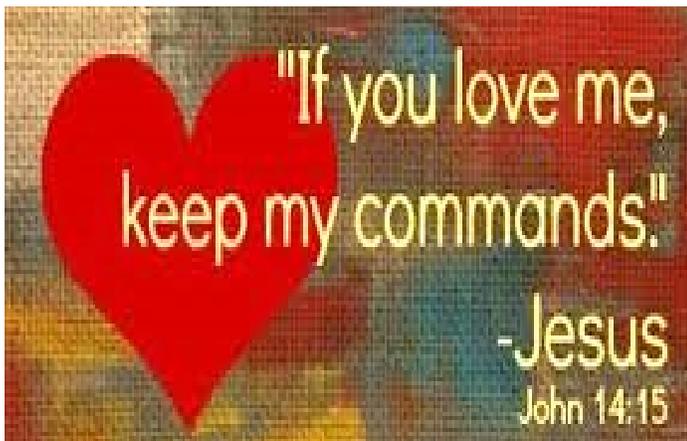
"Whoever loves me will keep my commandments, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our dwelling with him" (John 14:23).

To fully understand Jesus' message, we must define what it means to love. Love (*agape*) is unconditional acceptance of the other. It involves a conscious recognition that all people are created in the *image and likeness* of God and as such are *deserving* of respect, justice, dignity and mercy.



Man does not have the right or the permission to decide who is deserving of receiving unconditional love in the same way that man does not have neither the right nor the permission to decide who lives and who dies.

The individual who honestly and sincerely *loves* Jesus will *instinctively* strive to create an environment where love can be discovered, cultivated and form the basis for living a value-centered life; an existence that is rooted in and gives rise to Truth, charity, honesty and justice.



The commandments about which Jesus speaks consist of the whole and entire gospel message. To keep the commandments means that the *true* disciple is the individual who loves Jesus and demonstrates this love by *fulfilling* the message of the Gospel. Such a person walks in the Light of Truth and consequently, radiates Life, a life that reflects the presence of Jesus who abides within. God through Jesus *dwells* in the midst of goodness. Therefore, where goodness lies, one will find the presence of Jesus.

This is not true among those who refuse to listen to God's *Word* or who refuse to fulfill the commandments of Jesus. For them there is no Light because such an individual shuns the Light and readily embraces darkness. Where there is darkness, there is death and where there is death, one finds the *absence* of anything characteristic of God. When John Paul II visited the United States in 1979, he warned Americans about embracing what he referred to as the "*gospel of death.*"

Greed, dishonesty and immorality prevent man from choosing the *Gospel of Life*. Darkness gives rise to and perpetuates self-seeking and consequently, short-lived egocentric types of reinforcements, all of which give birth to a gospel of materialism and secularism. We find this existing on all levels of society. It points to a world as well as a culture that has strayed from its true identity, having been created in the *image and likeness* of God.



All is not gloom and doom because we are *Easter people*. Jesus has made all things new by dying and rising from the dead. Easter is Jesus' victory over sin and death. To the degree that we *embrace* the Easter message and strive to live it, to that degree can we hope to experience an enduring and ever-present relationship of Christ.

The Easter Event confirms Christ's obedience to the Father in the presence of His creation and in the presence of the *Paraclete* who the Father has sent into the world as verification of His loving and enduring presence in and through Jesus Christ. To those who fulfill the commandments and prove their love, the presence of the divine is not only indwelling in their lives; they become an extension of that which they contain in the deep recesses of their souls: Christ.



"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you. Not as the world gives, do I give it to you; this is my gift to you" (John 14:27).

What does Jesus mean when he bestows unto his disciples his wish for peace? Jesus does not mean the absence of war, nor does he mean the end of psychological tension. Jesus also does not mean the sentimental, hallmark moment where at one time one is happy and at another moment sad.

The peace that Jesus bestows has to do with eternal salvation rooted in the here and now. It is an internal predisposition that one acquires through a daily living out of one's faith in Jesus Christ that is rooted in love (*agape*). Jesus refers to this peace as a *gift* because we receive it without merit. Jesus bestows this peace as a reward for our love. To love Jesus means that we embrace the commandments. If we do, *the Father and I will make our dwelling in you* (John 14: 23). The result of this *indwelling* of Jesus leads to a life where one lives as an extension of that which abides deep within the soul: *the Spirit of the triune God*.

The world cannot give true peace because the world cannot give what it does not possess. Lasting peace results from a life lived in faith. Such a life cannot be shaken by the trials and tribulations of daily living but views such as a means for a deeper union with Jesus. Such a faith is rooted in the soul where Jesus dwells. Such a faith has its origin in Jesus Christ.

In a world filled with much unrest and confusion, John 14 is a real *gift* for re-discovering and cultivating a lasting link to Jesus. Find that peace that the world can never give by looking within your soul for the maker of all things good: Jesus Christ. And...once found...share it with others! JNM

Additional Note: Although sensitive of gender-related language; he/she, him/her, it is often necessary to refer to the generic, "man" when reference is made to the essence of human nature.

Something to Ponder



Proverbs for Life

"Wisdom builds her house but folly tears hers down with her own hands. He who walks uprightly fears the Lord, but he who is devious in his ways spurns him. In the mouth of the fool is a rod for his back, but the lips of the wise preserve them" (Proverbs 14:1-3).

Interpretation

This is a very powerful proverb that gives a very pertinent message for our 21st century. *Wisdom*, or the act of striving for knowledge means that one seeks truth in a spirit of justice. *Folly* refers to the opposite of wisdom, which is *ignorance*. *Folly* describes one who is foolish; one who speaks *without thinking*.

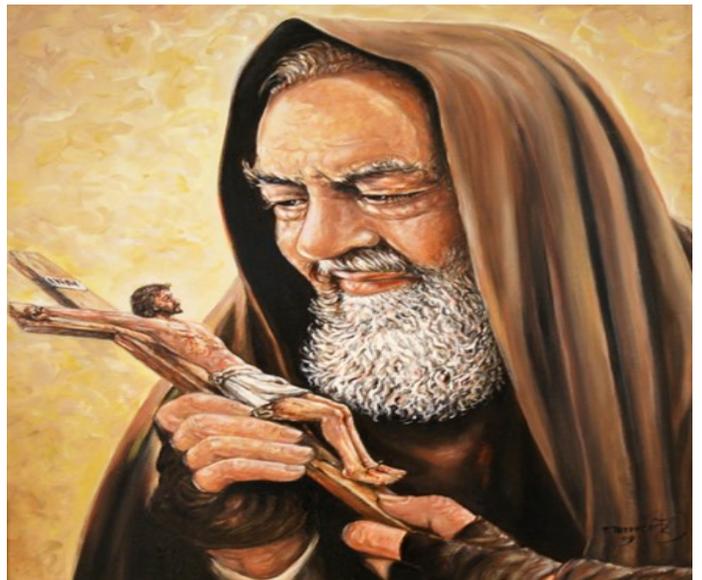
In other words, the foolish person is his/her worst enemy because he/she does not choose his/her words wisely and often speaks from *both sides of his/her mouth*.

These are the opinionated people who engage in gossip and spread rumors that lack any basis in reality. Such individuals actually turn their listeners off!

The proverb continues by saying that the person who walks uprightly, *with integrity and honesty* fears the Lord. The word *fear* means reverence for the Lord. In other words, the person who strives to live-out and to demonstrate the *Word* of God in his/her interactions with other people do so out of a love for the Lord; such a love defines the behaviors and the choices of the individual.

Verse three says: *"in the mouth of the fool is the rod for his back."* The *"rod"* is the stick to hit a naughty child. The foolish individual possesses his/her own punishment because his/her words turn people off and serve only to hurt and to tear apart. The wise person, on the other hand, is one who uses words to build up others and to heal. JNM

Our Patron Speaks to Us



"Have courage and do not fear the assaults of the devil. Remember this forever. It is a healthy sign if the devil shouts and roars around your conscience, since this shows that he is not inside your will."

"The longer the trial to which God subjects you, the greater the goodness in comforting you during the time of the trial and in the exaltation after the combat."

"Prayer is the best weapon we have; it is the key to God's heart. You must speak to Jesus not only with your lips, but with your heart. In fact, on certain occasions you should only speak to him with your heart."

WE NEED YOUR HELP

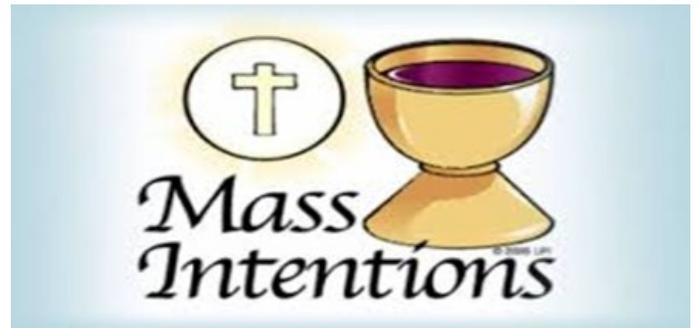
Parishioner Census Update

We are trying to update our census with the most current information for parishioners, to help us with it, please go to, www.stpioofpietrelcinaeh.com, there will be a pop up that says "Parishioner Contact Information Update" please click on the blue 'here' in the pop up and fill out the form.

FR. MURASSO'S MESSAGE BOARD

We will get through these difficult days BETTER, if we live one moment at a time by placing our trust in God and raising our voices and our hands in prayer to a MERCIFUL and LOVING FATHER.





Although public Masses are not being celebrated with congregations, private Masses continue to be celebrated by Father Patrick, Fr. Zacharias, Fr. Galasso and myself throughout these times. Parishioners who have reserved Masses for loved-ones can be assured that their Masses are being celebrated and their loved-ones remembered. JNM

HOW TO PRAY MASS FROM HOME



TIPS FOR CREATING A SACRED SPACE TO REVERENTLY WATCH THE MASS

CREATE A SACRED SPACE

- Set out a crucifix
- Light a candle
- Open your Bible to the Gospel reading
- Rearrange furniture

PREPARE SPIRITUALLY

- Dress the same as you would if you were attending Mass
- Bless the room with holy water
- Have each person bless themselves with holy water
- Spend a few minutes in silence before Mass begins

ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE

- Stand, kneel, and sit at the right times
- Say the prayers and responses of the Mass out loud

ENGAGE IN COMMUNITY

- Share a meal after Mass
- Spend time talking about the Gospel reading



IMPORTANT

While Masses have been cancelled, your offertory does not have to be! Your parish support continues to be extremely important during this time when our churches are closed. The daily operations of the parish are ongoing even though our parish staff may be working from home. Our staff as well as the utilities need to be paid even though the income through weekly collections is nonexistent. Please, if possible, remember your weekly support, which can be made online at, <https://www.stpioofpietrelcinaeh.com> and click the GIVE button or through the mail Thank you for your continue generosity.



We will continue our May food collection for the East Haven Food Pantry, which is asking for macaroni & cheese and canned vegetables. Please leave your donations of food at the church entrance at both the Taylor Avenue and Foxon Road campuses throughout the month.

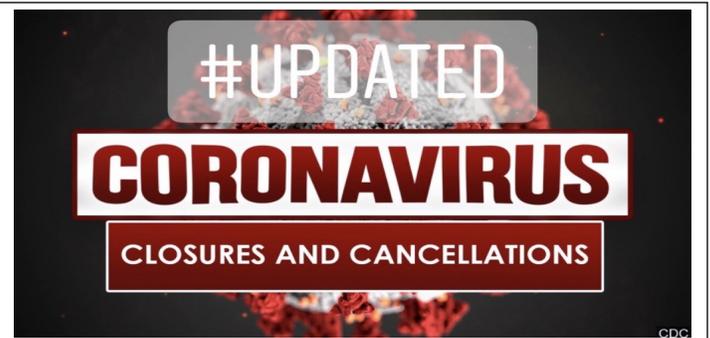
SAVE THE DATE!



**Adult Volunteers
Needed to Teach
Bible Adventures &
Imagination Station**

**Teen Volunteers Gain
Fun Service Hours as
Adventure Guides**

**Contact: Sally Mucka
203-469-0764 or
saintpio.rcia@gmail.com
To Volunteer**



The Archdiocese of Hartford has extended the cancellation of all public Masses and liturgies in the churches of the Archdiocese until further notice, which will likely extend past April 30, given the constantly changing landscape and decisions of civil authorities.

Priests will celebrate a daily Mass alone with no congregation, remembering in prayer all who are affected by the pandemic. Parishes will make provision for their churches to be open at some time so that individuals can still come and pray. The faithful are encouraged to watch Mass on TV or online, and say a Spiritual Act of Communion (see below). Further direction and updates from the Archdiocese can be found at www.archdioceseofhartford.org/coronavirus.

- The Archdiocese of Hartford has **suspended publicly scheduled confessions until further notice**. As the Church teaches, where the individual faithful find themselves in the painful impossibility of receiving sacramental absolution, it should be remembered that perfect contrition, expressed by a sincere request for forgiveness and the firm resolution to have recourse to sacramental confession as soon as possible, obtains forgiveness of sins, even mortal ones (CCC 1452).

- In addition, the Parish Offices are temporarily closed to the public. Many staff are working from home, and are monitoring voicemails and emails. We will update as soon as the office is re-opened.

Per the diocese, during this time parishioners who are absent from Mass are urged to make alternate provision for their weekly contributions since parishes depend on them for operation. **Sign up for Online Giving or make a one-time donation at <https://pompeiichurch.churchgiving.com/>**

Let us all draw closer to the Lord in this time, and continue to pray for everyone affected by the virus. Although we may be temporarily physically isolated from one another, we are still one in the Body of Christ. Mary, health of the sick, pray for us!