

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 3956

Newsletter

St. Pius X, Southgate, Michigan Issue #12

APRIL, 2020



HAPPY EASTER!

Yes, In spite of Covid19, the loss of our brother and friend Tony Cerezo last month and the stress and anxiety we have each had to experience, we have entered the season of Easter. A time of renewal that we should all welcome and embrace. Please pray for each other and our families that we stay safe through this coronavirus pandemic in good health and spirits.

Rest assured you are not alone. We are a brotherhood of men who care for each other and those we love. Reach out even more than you may already have to family members, friends, and any person you feel may be in need of a heart felt reminder they too are not alone. "Never underestimate the lingering effect of a dash of spontaneous comfort".

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY IS APRIL 19th. "Jesus, I trust in You."



On this Sunday after Easter we celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy - a continuation of Easter Week celebrations with a deliberate focus on the mercy of the Lord Jesus! This feast is born out of tradition of the Church and the image of the Divine Mercy, with instruction given to Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska as recorded in her Diary.

Pope Saint John Paul II, at the Shrine of Divine Mercy in Cracow, Poland on June 7, 1997, offers to us these words, on the power and necessity of the Mercy of God: "Those who sincerely say 'Jesus, I trust in You' will find comfort in all their anxieties and fears...There is nothing more man needs than Divine Mercy - that love which is benevolent, which is compassionate, which raises man above his weakness to the infinite heights to the holiness of God. "May each of us celebrate the Mercy of God throughout the Easter Season.

<http://www.olbharrisburg.org/2017/04/divine-mercy-sunday-jesus-trust/>

In cooperation with the governor's executive order, the Archdiocese has called for the suspension of parish activities due to the outbreak of the coronavirus. Some information within this newsletter is subject to change. This will include General Membership Meetings. Our March meeting was conducted through Skype with the help of insurance advocate Tom Jackson. Our scheduled meeting for Wednesday, May 6th is pending at this time. We will attempt to keep members informed via texting and/or internet updates.

TIME ON YOUR HANDS?

There are so many enlightening and uplifting resources we can find online to fill our hearts and our minds. Here are a few suggestions:

1. The **Eternal Word Television Network**, more commonly known by its initialism **EWTN**, is an American basic cable television network which presents around-the-clock Catholic-themed programming. It was founded by Mother Angelica, PCPA, in 1980

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/daily-readings>

2. The Archdiocese of Detroit Newsroom is a great resource for information within the Archdiocese including access to local Catholic media; cable channel, podcasts, and other social media.

<https://www.aod.org/newsroom>

3. There are many pro-catholic movies to enjoy while we are shut down. Many people are turning to streaming platforms to occupy their time during social distancing. Make the most of your time by watching something that will not only entertain but lift your mind and heart to something higher. Here are a few:

<https://aleteia.org/2020/03/18/12-catholic-movies-to-watch-during-social-distancing/>

<https://www.imdb.com/list/ls027076387/>

<https://www.christiancinema.com/digital/category/catholic>

4. For those of you that did not have the opportunity to follow online with Holy Week Home Retreat streaming, you missed a very rewarding and timely series of talks by several wonderful and well-spoken reverends within our Archdiocese. One in particular that was as powerful as any discourse I recall was on Wednesday, April 8th by the Reverend John Riccardo. Please set some quiet time to listen to what he has to say. It takes a moment to open up, so be patient.

<https://livestream.com/accounts/19963606/events/9067785>

MAY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

Once again, due to the social distancing order, which may or may not expire on April 30, our regular membership, scheduled for May 6, 2020 is yet to be determined. We hope, like our March meeting, we can come together via video conferencing. Please expect an email prior to next month's meeting if it remains as scheduled or is postponed due to suspension of activities in the parish. Deputy Grand Knight Bob Schooner (rds11553@yahoo.com) will continue to keep brother knights informed of our meetings.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

At this time, we are only asking for monetary contributions for the pantry. We are holding off on any food donations for the foreseeable future until we figure out the logistics for safe delivery. Monetary donations will certainly be welcomed and can be addressed to the Downriver Food Pantry, 25322 Petras. Huron Twp, MI, 48134. Attn: Joyce. Dennis Hamilton will keep us fully apprised as the situation evolves.

RIGHT TO LIFE

Please stay up to date by visiting the Michigan website for Right to Life at <https://rtl.org> During this pandemic, let's not forget the unborn. We encourage brother Knights, family and friends to continue to pray and stay active regarding the Born Alive Abortion concern.

MAY CROWNING

The Annual May Crowning that had been scheduled for Tuesday, May 5, 2020 at St. Pius Church has been cancelled for this year. On behalf of the Rosary Altar Confraternity of St. Pius with our K of C Council it is suggested that we still offer up the Rosary on that day.

OUR PARISH NEEDS US

On behalf of Fr. Suresh and his staff, please continue to support the Parish financially in whatever ways you can. Although we are not celebrating Mass as a parish community, we still have a need to pay our staff, maintain the church building, and, importantly, continue our outreach ministries. We ask that, to the best of your ability, you continue to make your weekly offertory donations, either by mailing them to the parish, dropping the envelopes in the Parish office or through electronic giving. If your income has been adversely affected by the response to COVID-19, please contact our parish office to see if we can help you.

GOD GRANTS US THE POWER

At this time of health and emotional crisis, we have the power of prayer. Remember our brother knights, parishioners, their family and friends in need of God's mercy for whatever challenges they face, particularly those in poor health and in crisis.

There is more we can do to combat the coronavirus than to reduce public gatherings, following safe sanitary practices of washing hands regularly and coughing into your arms. **PRAY THE ROSARY!** Let us pray the Blessed Rosary to our Blessed Mother to intercede for us and end the panic and infection of this epidemic.

Please say extra prayers for first responders and care givers on the front lines of providing support to their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

FROM OUR RECENT PARISH RESOURCES

We hope you have not only continued to support our parish financially, but have also have followed St. Pius Bulletin and parish website. Here are a few excerpts:

From last week (April 5, 2020) Bulletin:

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe,

Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas, we fly to you today as your beloved children. We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana. Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of your holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness. For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance. Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing, teach us all in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind. Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy.

Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

An Excerpt of Fr. Suresh's message on our Parish Website.

During the COVID-19 pandemic and the temporary suspension of public Masses in the Archdiocese of Detroit, I like to send you these notes as I continue to pray and offer you all in my private prayer and Mass. I continue to take up your intentions in my daily private Mass and be available for confessions by appointment. We continue to print church bulletins and they are available at the entrance of the church and online in our Parish Website. The Church remains open every day from 8 am to 12 noon for private prayers. We continue to print church bulletins and they are available at the entrance of the church and online in our Parish Website. The Parish Staff will continue to be here in the office from 8 am to 3 pm and able to answer your questions and take care of day to day operations. *(Please call the office to confirm office and church hours have not changed)*

Let us continue to pray for one another and be the best of ourselves in taking care of each other during this time of unrest as we continue to reflect daily on Christ's passion, in our prayers we recognize that He is journeying with us during this time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Let us entrust to Our Lady and St. Pius X for those who suffer illness. Through their intercession, may God grant healing and protection to all people around us as we face the challenge of the virus' spread. Let us by the courageous hope give witness to our confidence in the good news of the Lord's victory over suffering death.

Sincerely Yours in Christ

Fr. Suresh Rajaian SAC
Pastor

In lieu of Reflection and Message Board for this month, we asked members of our K of C and parish community to share their thoughts at this trying time for our community and country.

Easter is here! As we reflect this week on the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, may your heart be filled with love and peace knowing that He died for you and me.

Thomas Jackson
thomas.f.jackson@kofc.org

All is well at the Butka home but am missing my son & grandchildren who live in Ohio. Doing a lot of ZOOM. Still working from home but miss my co-workers & parishioner family. Let us all pray for each other and an end to this terrible virus during this Holy Week and Easter.

Thank you for all you do for St. Pius. You and your family stay safe!!

Lou Butka

Wishing everyone a safe and blessed holy week. During these trying times we need to challenge ourselves to think positive and reflect on those moments that bring us joy. I pray that all of you and your families are well.

As for me I have a daughter and daughter in law working at Henry Ford Hospital Wyandotte and a grandson working at Kroger's. So it's understandable that life for me is a stressful and times are tense. God willing we'll all get through this stronger appreciating our faith and accepting our need for family closeness.

Let's keep each other in our prayers and remember all those in need.

May God be with all of you.

Sincerely, Bob Schooner
Deputy Grand Knight

I finally have good news to report that my daughter, Terianne, who lives in Austin has been released from quarantine. As a result of the virus, she is now being treated for pinkeye. Thanks to everyone for your prayers and support.

Bill Robert
Grand Knight

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020
Happy Easter Blessings!

Monday, April 13, 2020
Easter Monday

Tuesday, May 5, 2020
Cinco de Mayo

Wednesday, May 6, 2020
K of C Council 3956 Membership Meeting, Wednesday, May 6, 2020
Date may be subject to change.

Sunday, May 10, 2020
Mother's Day

Saturday, May 16, 2020
Ascension Day

Monday, May 25, 2020
Memorial Day

Sunday, May 31, 2020
Pentecost

PRAYER FOR THE MONTH

Prayer to our Lady

Remember, O most loving Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, we turn to you, O Virgins of virgins, our Mother. To you we come, before you we stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, do not despise our petitions, but in your mercy hear us and answer us. Amen.



Stay Strong, Stay Safe, Stay Positive

Vivat Jesus

Anthony J. (Tony) Chirco,
Brother Knight and Editor