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Prayer Line

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860-643-4466  
860-643-8374  
860-649-5449



## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

"Whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out." - Jn 10:2-3

With whom do we converse and listen to the most? Believe it or not, the answer is ourselves. We are constantly having conversations with ourselves, and sometimes we even get caught! Our inner conversations reveal the truth about ourselves. We really cannot hide from ourselves, although we often pretend we can. By conversing with ourselves, we find solutions to our challenges, problem solve, work through our relationships, formulate opinions, run through dress rehearsals of possible conversations, and wrestle with and determine our system of priorities and values. What other voices affect the conversations we have with ourselves?

Often, voices from our past continue to haunt us. These voices cause us to mistrust our judgment, harbor anger, and cling to our fears of rejection, failure, being wrong, and the like. It is in these inner conversations that we face what holds us captive — our limitations, weaknesses, sinfulness, and stubborn ego preoccupations. We often go about our lives putting out one fire or another, keeping ourselves preoccupied and busy, and trying to stay on top of things. Intentionally or unintentionally, we find ourselves wandering off. We turn around and can no longer see our home. We look down at our feet and realize we have lost our anchor. Feeling scared, out of place, desolate, unsettled, and lonely, we realize that we are lost.

We listened to the wrong voices! In the midst of everything competing for our attention, the voice of the One who could truly call us home got muffled. We didn't hear it. As our inner dialogues continue to play out, the one voice we need to consult — even before our own — is God's. He is the Good Shepherd who can keep us safely where we need to be. As we graze through the stuff of our lives, we must constantly remember to look up, be attentive, and stay focused. Our habits of prayer are the only thing that can properly root us and keep us grounded. Contemplating God's presence and developing an inner awareness of love incarnate, we will then find ourselves praying unceasingly as the days and nights and the ebbs and flows of our lives unfold. Suddenly, the inner conversations we are constantly having are no longer just with ourselves or with voices that can lead us astray but with the Trinity, who desperately wants us to stay home.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
MAY 3, 2020

### Prayer Line

Mary Ann 860-649-5449

### Pastor

Fr. Bill Olesik

### Director of Faith Formation

Amie Tillmann

860-646-6314 or [saintmauriceccd@gmail.com](mailto:saintmauriceccd@gmail.com)

### Organist and Choir Director

Don Benevides 860-871-0752

### Secretary

Mrs. Theresa Cisson

Office Hours - Mon., Tues., & Fri. - 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Telephone: 860-643-4466

e-mail: [saintmauricechurchbolton@gmail.com](mailto:saintmauricechurchbolton@gmail.com)

Note: during the pandemic office hours are not regular as stated above, but you can continue to call the telephone number and leave a message.

### Eucharistic Minister to Homebound

Patricia Cinea 860-646-0564

### Fair and Workshops

Dorli Cloutier 860-649-6255

Beth Harney 860-649-1331

Sharon Scorso 860-646-1423

### Website

[www.saintmauricebolton.org](http://www.saintmauricebolton.org)

### WEEKEND MASSES: (temporarily suspended)

Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.

Sundays at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

Holy Days at 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

### WELCOME!

If you are new in the Parish, please register and introduce yourself to the Pastor. The Parishioners wish to meet and serve you! Drop by at a Pancake Breakfast after the Sunday Mass, per the Calendar online or as announced inside the bulletin. We hope you will favor our Parish with your prayers, your presence, your talents and your financial assistance according to your means!

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

by appointment only

### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-748-4560) to arrange for a meeting with the Pastor.

### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arrangements must start more than 6 months before marriage. Necessary interviews, a pre-cana course and plenty of paperwork is required. We strongly urge you to contact us to begin the Diocesan preparation course as soon as you are engaged to get the most out of it without rush.

### CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

The Sacramental Guidelines define Church Membership in terms of Sunday Mass attendance and Church support. For membership verification and sponsorship certificate, registration and regular use of the envelope system are the only way we have of verifying this for you. Please notify us if there are changes in your address, marital status, etc., so that we may update your records.

### VISITATION TO THE SICK:

We are most anxious to help anyone who is not able to celebrate Mass with us in Church due to illness, handicapped or age. If you wish the Sacraments, please call 860-643-9553.



## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**MAY 3, 2020**

**Our normal Mass Schedule is temporarily suspended. Livestream Masses:**

From the Cathedral of Saint Patrick in Norwich

<https://www.norwichdiocese.org/Masses> **Sunday 9AM**

Daily Mass from Blessed Sacrament Parish

<https://www.blessedsacramentct.org/>: **Monday 8AM / Tuesday 9AM / Wednesday 8AM / Thursday 9AM / Friday 8AM and Sunday 10AM**



Join us in praying the **Divine Mercy Chaplet** that started on March 22<sup>nd</sup> for the specific intentions of Mercy for the souls of the dying, healing of the sick, the return of souls to the Church, and an end to the Coronavirus. The novena will conclude on Thursday, May 14th, for the feast of St. Corona, patron saint of epidemics.

St. Corona, whose name comes from the Latin word "Crown," was an early church martyr who died about A.D. 170. Her remains are buried in Anzu, Italy. Her popularity has soared in recent days, not just because she shares a name with the coronavirus, but because ironically enough, she is regarded as a powerful intercessor when it comes to epidemics. How she became associated with epidemics is unclear, but we do know she was a saint of bold compassion and heroic courage and is a powerful source of intercession during this time.

We can seek the intercession of St. Corona for healing from this pandemic, but we should also seek her as a source of encouragement when we may be tempted to give in to despair or doubt.

### Readings for the week of May 3, 2020

**Sunday:** Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10

**Monday:** Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4 [cf. 3a]/Jn 10:11-18

**Tuesday:** Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [Ps 117:1a]/Jn 10:22-30

**Wednesday:** Acts 12:24—13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8 [4]/Jn 12:44-50

**Thursday:** Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27 [2]/Jn 13:16-20

**Friday:** Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab [7bc]/Jn 14:1-6

**Saturday:** Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 14:7-14

**Next Sunday:** Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/1 Pt 2:4-9/Jn 14:1-12

### FROM SAINT MAURICE PARISH



#### ST. MAURICE PRAYER LINE

Please remember all the special intentions on the St. Maurice Prayer Line and Faith Formation Students Prayer Requests.

Keeping you all in our prayers during this difficult time. Thank you, Mary Ann



"Thank you" to all who have been sending in your weekly offertory or donating online. It has been a great help and encouragement. Regular updates and options for giving are shown on the home page of the

parish website: <http://www.saintmauricebolton.org/>

To receive the bulletin by e-mail, please send a message to [tmanning818@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tmanning818@sbcglobal.net) and we will put you on the distribution list.

### Psalm 23

[King James Version]



<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

<sup>3</sup> He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

<sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.



### STEWARDSHIP

"And Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ...'"

ACTS 2:38



The word "repent" means to turn from sin, to change our actions. Change that is permanent comes from within. It requires prayer, discipline and perseverance. Change is also hard. We have to recognize that we are broken and need help. The good news - we are not alone in our journey. Ask Jesus daily for guidance and patiently listen for his response.

## REFLECTIONS



**Do our hearts burn when we listen to the Risen Lord?** Tradition teaches us that the reading of the Scriptures, the study of the Scriptures and the proclamation of the message of the Scriptures are the primary ways in which we meet God. Vatican II (Dei Verbum 21) tells us that Jesus is to be equally venerated in the Eucharist and in the Bible. Therefore, we need to study the Bible, learn the Bible, memorize the Bible and meditate on the word of God. We know that Christ lives in the Bible, and so we need to spend time in the Bible to have a deep, intimate, loving, caring, long-term relationship with Jesus Christ. We know we are to brush our teeth every day. Likewise, we are to read the Bible every day, making it habitual, because people either read the Bible daily or almost never. When we read the Scriptures daily we meet and converse with Jesus Christ! Abraham Lincoln, whom many consider the best President of the United States, said: "The greatest gift that God gave to human beings is the Bible." Another President of the United States, John Quincy Adams, said that it was a principle of his to read the Bible through each and every year. Yet another great President of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt, said, "A thorough knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education." Goethe, the great German philosopher, said that the beauty of the Bible grows as we grow in our understanding of it.



**Law v. Mercy** In *Reader's Digest*, Jim Williams of Montana, writes: "I was driving too fast late one night when I saw the flashing lights of a police car in my rearview mirror. As I pulled over and rolled down my window of my station wagon, I tried to dream up an excuse for my haste. But when the patrolman reached the car, he said nothing. Instead, he merely shined his flashlight in my face, then on my seven-month-old in his car seat, then on our three other children who were asleep, and lastly on the two dogs in the very back of the car. Returning the beam of light to my face, he then uttered the only words of the encounter. 'Son,' he said, 'you can't afford a ticket. Slow down.' And with that, he returned to his car and drove away." Sometimes mercy triumphs over law. So it is for sinners who call out to Jesus."



**Divine Mercy in Action:** A *TIME* magazine issue in 1984 presented a startling cover. It pictured two men who sat on metal folding chairs. The young man wore a black turtleneck sweater, blue jeans and white running shoes. The older man was dressed in a white robe and had a white skullcap on his head. They sat facing one another, up-close and personal. They spoke quietly so as to keep others from hearing the conversation. The young man was Mehmet Ali Agca, the pope's would-be assassin (he shot and wounded the Pope on May 13, 1981); the other man was Pope St. John Paul II, the intended victim. The Pope held the hand that had held the gun whose bullet tore into the Pope's body. This was a living icon of mercy. John Paul's forgiveness was deeply Christian. His deed with Ali Agca spoke a thousand words. He embraced his enemy and pardoned him. At the end of their 20-minute meeting, Ali Agca raised the Pope's hand to his forehead as a sign of respect. John Paul shook Ali Agca's hand tenderly. When the Pope left the cell he said, "What we talked about must remain a secret between us. I spoke to him as a brother whom I have pardoned and who has my complete trust." This is an example of God's Divine Mercy, the same Divine Mercy whose message St. Faustina witnessed.

(<http://www.americancatholic.org/Newsletters/CU/ac0308.asp>)

### Fulfilling Your Obligation

In cases such as we are experiencing now, the Church encourages us to make an act of "spiritual communion," where we unite ourselves to God through prayer. It is a beautiful way to express to God our desire to be united with him when we are unable to complete that union in the reception of Holy Communion.

**Sunday Mass is commuted by doing one of the following AND making an Act of Spiritual Communion:**

**Select Any of the Four Devotions Below AND Make an Act of Spiritual Communion**

- Watching Sunday Mass on TV or online.
- Reading and reflecting upon the Scriptures for Sunday- See Daily Readings in the column to the right.
- Praying 5 Decades of the Rosary – The Sorrowful Mysteries being particularly suited to both the current situation and the Lenten Season.
- Meditating on the Stations of the Cross.

### An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.  
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.  
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.  
Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.





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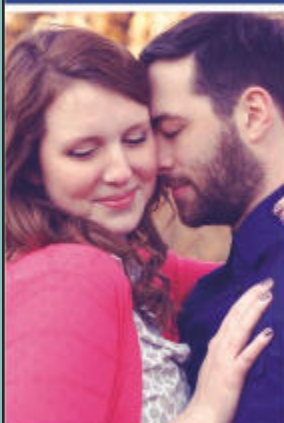
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