

St. John Bosco PSR Weekly Email

March 26, 2020

PSR Classes

Dear Parents,

As you are well aware, "the Archdiocese of St. Louis is extending the closure of all archdiocesan elementary and high schools—including all grades pre-K through 12—through Wednesday, April 22. Pending continuing updates and guidance from local and state government and health officials, we have preliminary plans to permit teachers to return on Thursday, April 23, and students to return on Monday, April 27."

The best thing that you can do is to continue catechesis at home by using the lessons that are sent through *Smore*, and spending some additional time each day engaging your child in the faith, whether by saying two *Hail Mary's* (or one *Our Father*) while washing your hands, setting up an altar at home on Sundays and participating in the Mass online, or playing some of the games and activities that can be found on our website.

I know that there are many questions regarding First Holy Communion and Confirmation. As we receive information from the Archdiocese, we will continue to keep you informed through the Weekly e-mail, the parish bulletin (found on our website) and the St. John Bosco website.

A PRAYER AMID A PANDEMIC

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their health and strength through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

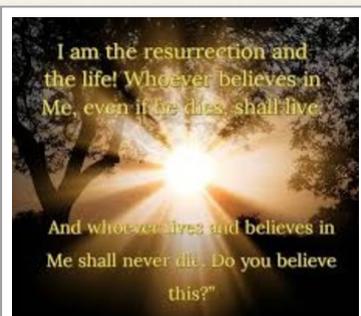
Jesus Christ, heal us.

-Author: Kerry Weber



A Prayer Amid A Pandemic.pdf

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50.3 KB



Gospel Message

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 29, 2020

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead

John 9:1-41

Jesus' promise of eternal life is a central element of our Catholic faith. Even though Easter is still two weeks away, our Gospel today invites us to acknowledge Jesus' power over death, evidenced in the raising of Lazarus, and to anticipate Jesus' conquering of death once and for all in his death and Resurrection. We sometimes use examples from nature to help describe this mystery of our faith. Jesus himself talked about the seed that dies when planted in the ground in order to produce new life (John 12:24). Using that image and others, we find hope and confidence in Jesus, the Resurrection and the life.

Gather your family today and read today's Gospel in its shorter form, John 11:3-7,17,20-27,33b-45. Write Jesus' promise from today's Gospel ("I am the resurrection and the life.") on a large sheet of white paper. As your family talks about what Jesus means by this promise, decorate Jesus' words with symbols that will remind you of his promise of eternal life. Display this reminder of Jesus' promise in a prominent place in your home and keep it there until Easter. Pray that you will always remain confident in Jesus' promise of eternal life. Conclude by praying together the [Apostles' Creed](#) or the [Nicene Creed](#).

Loyola Press

Baptized for Discipleship

Jesus:

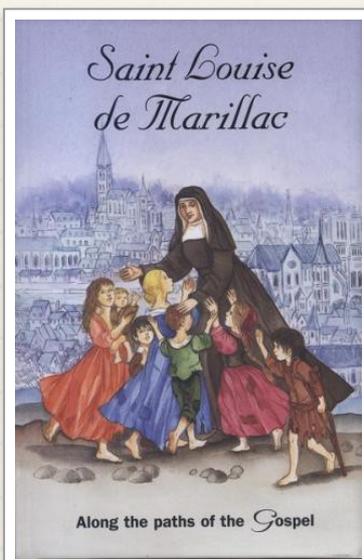
*told his people stories - the **Gospel Message***

*prayed with the people - our **Worship***

*cared for his people - our **Community***

*served his people - our **Service***

We are called to be followers of Christ.



Celebrating the Saints

St. Louise de Marillac

Feast Day: March 11

Born near Meux, France, Louise lost her mother when she was still a child, her beloved father when she was but 15. Her desire to become a nun was discouraged by her confessor, and a marriage was arranged. One son was born of this union. But Louise soon found herself nursing her beloved husband through a long illness that finally led to his death.

From an interior illumination she understood that she was to undertake a great work under the guidance of another person she had not yet met. This was the holy priest Monsieur Vincent, later to be known as Saint Vincent de Paul. Louise de Marillac was canonized in 1934 and declared patroness of social workers in 1960.

Reflection

In Louise's day, serving the needs of the poor was usually a luxury only fine ladies could afford. Her mentor, Saint Vincent de Paul, wisely realized that women of peasant stock could reach poor people more effectively, and the Daughters of Charity were born under her leadership. Today, that order—along with the Sisters of Charity—continues to nurse the sick and aging and provide refuge for orphans. Many of its members are social workers toiling under Louise's patronage. The rest of us must share her concern for the disadvantaged.

Finding God E-Newsletter

In this special Lenten edition of the Finding God E-Newsletter, you will find stories and ideas to help you spend more time with Jesus and see the holiness growing within your families and yourselves.

[Finding God E-Newsletter - Lenten Edition](#)



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