



Peter said, "I have neither silver nor gold,
but what I do have I give you:
in the name of Jesus Christ the
Nazorean, rise and walk." – (Acts 3:1-10)

*Easter Blessings and Greetings to each and every one of you and yours! Jesus Christ is Risen; He is **truly** Risen! Alleluia!*

PLEASE read through the following communication. In addition to words of encouragement and hope, we are repeating (and adding a few) of the many and various spiritual supports being offered to keep all of us spiritually connected at this time, as well as encouragement for faithful Stewardship of financial support for your Parish, and ways that can happen. Additionally, we are providing information regarding a Fund that has been established to help any of our Parishioners in need at this time as the result of the current Pandemic. Last but not least, a Pamphlet, provided us by Our Sunday Visitor, "Faith and Common Sense – The Catholic Response to an Epidemic", for your enrichment.

Since the weekend of March 14th/15th, when the faithful were dispensed from the obligation of participating in Sunday Mass, followed by the suspension of all publicly celebrated Masses/Liturgies on March 16th, in support of the State of Ohio's "Stay at Home Order", each and every one of us have felt the pain of not being able to gather as a community of faith in the ways and manner we have become so accustomed to. Each and everyone of us have felt the hunger and thirst for the very food and drink . . . the Body and Blood of our Lord . . . that is our life-line, and yet, we have not faltered, we have not been defeated, we have not given up HOPE! If anything, we have become stronger, more resolute, and even more vibrant believers, **not** because of what we do not have access to during these very challenging times, but **despite** the fact we do not have that access, for God is stronger, more caring, loving, more powerful than any evil or disease that exists. And God is proving that in many, MANY varied ways during this time.

As I shared in this morning's Homily, for the past several years, we, as a community of belief, have dug in and focused our attention and our hearts on the importance of Evangelization and Re-Evangelization. I have preached and written on this essential mission of the Church (and many of you have politely indulged me!). We have offered education and formation. Your Parish leaders have read and studied and prayed, and, yes, we have all struggled with just what this looks like and how do each of us as individual believers do this? How do we become not just Disciples of the Lord, but **Missionary** Disciples, and help others to do the same? What do we **give** them?

Like Peter, in the Mass Reading from this morning: God has equipped you with all you need to do this . . . it is "neither silver or gold" but "Jesus Christ" that you offer . . . Jesus Christ, alive in and through you . . . Just bring your belief in . . . your faith in . . . your conviction and confession in Jesus Christ to all you encounter (and in these days of social distancing but NOT spiritual isolation) via phone, text, messaging, notes, letters, cards, emails and any and every which way you can to others, and lift them up . . . let them rise from whatever may have been holding them down. Rise to life in Christ. For it is Jesus Christ who will bring us through the desert of Pandemic by means of the waters of baptism we have shared in to the new and vibrant life of Resurrection He offers.

When this began to unfold, we undertook steps to act as quickly and as forcefully as we were able to do to keep our faith community connected, and we are grateful for so many who have done just that.

We have roughly **32** individuals (and we are aware of others who have simply taken this on their own to do) who have been calling and keeping in contact with a variety of members from around 600 names that have been divided up among them! That is ***God at work in the midst of us!***

Regular/daily communications continue to be sent via email to over 400+ recipients, with news and opportunities for feeding and sustaining our ***spiritual connectedness!***

Multiple daily posts to our Parish Facebook page, along with offering live streaming of all Masses, Adoration experiences, Holy Hours, Prayer experiences and other liturgical experiences have occurred non-stop, and will continue, until we can all come back together safely and offer prayer and praise in a large group setting! ***On Tuesday, April 14th, Night Prayer and "visit with a friend" was live streamed, and that event/post showed nearly 900 Facebook users that were reached!! GOD IS GOOD!!***

More . . . we remain active and engaged and involved and will continue to do all that we can to help support each member of our community of faith (and beyond) during these times!

Perhaps, among the greatest of ***God at work in the midst of us***, has been the reality of the ***"Church in the home"*** becoming even more real and present at this time. So many have set-up their "home altars" and/or areas of faith and prayer in their homes, and what a blessing this is!

While many things that were on the Parish Calendar through the months of March, April and even into May have been postponed (such as the celebration of Confirmation and the reception of First Communion, the initiation of our Elect and Candidate, etc.), until such time as the "Stay at Home" order is lifted, public worship is reinstated, and the threat of infection by this disease is eliminated, "new" dates will not be established. We will keep all posted on this as the days/weeks unfold.

THE CURRENT "MASS"/PRAYER SCHEDULE (at this time) IS:

- ❖ Monday, Tuesday, Thursday – 8:30 AM
- ❖ Wednesday, Friday – 9:00 AM
- ❖ Rosary (Respect Life Group) ***prayed at home*** – Wednesday – 6:30 PM (*this is not live streamed*)
- ❖ Saturday (Vigil) – 5:00 PM
- ❖ Sunday – Liturgy of the Word for Children – 9:00 AM
Mass - 11:00 AM

- ❖ Adoration/Holy Hour/Evening Prayer – Monday, Wednesday – 7:00 PM
- ❖ Night Prayer (with live streaming of the Blessed Sacrament/Tabernacle until the WiFi signal cuts out) Tuesday, Thursday, Friday – 7:00 PM

REMEMBER access to these, and more:

SAVE THESE DIRECTIONS (for live streaming and/or viewing on Vimeo or YouTube)/SPIRITUAL HELPS

To access **Facebook**, we recommend:

- (1) First, go to <https://www.facebook.com/ourladyofvictorychurchtallmadge/>
- (2) Once there, if you have not yet done so, **"LIKE"** the page, then
- (3) Choose **"FOLLOW"** or **"FOLLOWING"** THIS PAGE . . . under that dropdown menu, you should choose, **"SEE FIRST"** in **your** newsfeed (for Facebook users). This means, it will show up in your feed so you know it is happening and/or has happened.
Also, in the **"NOTIFICATIONS"** section, select, **"NOTIFICATIONS ON"**. A notice will show up in your Newsfeed.

VIMEO

Following Mass/Liturgy, we upload the Facebook feed to **VIMEO**.

- (1) Simply go to: <https://www.vimeo.com>

- (2) Search for "Our Lady of Victory Tallmadge", and you will be taken to our page that has everything that has been uploaded to date.

YouTube

Following Mass, we also upload the Facebook feed to **YouTube**.

- (1) Simply go to: <https://www.YouTube.com>
(2) Search for "Our Lady of Victory Tallmadge", and you will be taken to our video page that has everything that has been uploaded to date.

Diocese of Cleveland

- (1) Daily Mass (Monday-Friday) will be streamed live at 9:30 a.m. from the Mater Ecclesiae Chapel in the diocesan offices. Go to <https://www.dioceseofcleveland.org>, and you will find the link on that page.

For any who do not have access to the internet

- (1) Sunday Mass may be viewed either on:
- WJW-TV FOX8 each Sunday at 6:00 AM
- Cox Communications Cable subscribers may select channel 45 where the Mass airs each week at 11:30 AM
(2) For those who wish to "listen" to the celebration of Mass (Sundays)
- WINT-1330AM airs this each Sunday at 9:00 AM
- WCCR-1260 AM airs this each Sunday at 10:30 AM
(3) EWTN also airs Mass daily and on Sundays

An Act of Spiritual Communion *During the Communion of the Celebrant, whether live streamed or being or viewing a recorded Mass, the following prayer is to be prayed at this time for all who are unable, due to the restrictions called for, to be physically present during the Eucharistic celebration/Mass):*

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 in 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.

The Apostolic Penitentiary issued a decree granting plenary indulgences to "the faithful suffering from COVID-19 virus, commonly known as coronavirus, as well as to health care workers, family members and all those who in any capacity, including through prayer, care for them."

- *First and foremost, a plenary indulgence is offered to all people suffering from the coronavirus who are in hospitals or quarantined at home. It is also offered, under the same conditions, to healthcare workers, family members, and caregivers. Furthermore, an indulgence is also offered to all those who, during this pandemic, pray for an end to it, pray for those who are suffering, and [pray] for those whom the Lord has called to Himself. (Cardinal Mauro Piacenza, Major Penitentiary, the head of the Apostolic Penitentiary)*
- **The following conditions apply:**
- The faithful, with a spirit detached from any sin, unite spiritually through the media to one of the following:
- A celebration of Holy Mass
 - A recitation of the Holy Rosary
 - The Way of the Cross or other forms of devotion
 - Recite the Creed, the Lord's Prayer and a pious invocation to the Blessed Virgin Mary

The faithful also should have the **will** to fulfil the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer according to the Holy Father's intentions) as soon as possible (that is, as soon as the coronavirus stay-at-home restrictions are lifted).

- The Apostolic Penitentiary also willingly grants a Plenary Indulgence to those faithful in their homes or residences who implore Almighty God for an end to the epidemic, relief for those who are afflicted and eternal salvation for those whom the Lord has called to Himself by means of one of the following:
 - Read the Holy Scriptures for at least half an hour
 - Recited the Holy Rosary
 - Recite the Way of the Cross
 - Recite the Chaplet of Divine Mercy

The Church prays for those who find themselves unable to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and of the Viaticum (*Communion prior to death, e.g., "food for the journey"*) entrusting each and every one to divine Mercy by virtue of the communion of saints and granting the faithful a Plenary Indulgence at the point of death, provided they are dully disposed and have recited a few prayers during their lifetime (*in this case, the Church **provides**, by interceding in the three of the usual conditions required.*)

SPIRITUAL HELPS

- ❖ You have access to FORMED.
 - Go to formed.org/signup
 - Select your parish
 - Register with your name and email address
 - Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED
- ❖ **Liturgy of the Hours** – go to <https://ebrievary.com> and during these unusual times you will have access to the Liturgy of the Hours for **free**.
- ❖ Also, for **Sundays** only: <https://www.ltp.org/LOH>
- ❖ **PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN MARY FOR PROTECTION**

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.
At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.
You, Our Lady of New York, know what we need.
We are certain that you will provide, so that,
as you did at Cana of Galilee,
joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the Father's will
and to do what Jesus tells us:
He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection.
Amen.
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.
- ❖ **The "Little White Books" for the Season of Easter are available at the Parish Center Offices during Office Hours (9:00 AM – 4:30 PM) Monday through Friday. Please consider a Free-Will Offering.**

With great humility, it is important that I also encourage each member to remember the call to be good stewards and continue your faithful financial support of your Parish at this time.

With the suspension of public worship at this time, the financial resources of your Parish that are provided through regular and consistent Offertory have been significantly impacted. While we have taken some significant steps to control spending (a substantial reduction in staff through lay-offs, a reduction in utility usage by shutting down the HVAC system in the Church/Hall building and limiting its use in the Parish Center; suspending outside contract services and or reducing the schedule of essential services, to name a few significant cost areas), there is only so much that can be done so that what we must still do in terms of mission and ministry can be maintained, but also, so that we will not be negatively impacted in our ability to "re-open" and welcome all of you back to your Church home when the threat of infection/spread no longer exists.

Please, remember this and do what you are able to do to support your Parish at this time:

- ❖ We encourage the use of on-line giving through **Faith Direct**. Simply go to: **www.faithdirect.com**, "Give Now". (1) Enter our Parish ID OH669, and you will be able to register and initiate a transaction. (2) Faith Direct accepts credit card donations for your convenience, as well as transfers from checking or savings accounts., or, just recently added, you may
- ❖ Prefer a "paper" enrollment form, one has been included with this mailing.
- ❖ Text-to-Give: (1) Text a dollar (\$) amount to (330) 969-6310. (2) Follow the link to complete a one-time registration.

(Please note that once the current situation has passed, should you desire to return to your regular way of financial support (such as the use of envelopes) you can do so with little interruption of your support).

- ❖ For those who wish, you may continue to use your envelopes to provide financial support. These can either be dropped by the Parish Center Offices, Monday thru Friday during Office hours – 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM, or placed in the mailbox outside the Office Entrance, or mailed to the Parish Center Offices.

I am grateful to all who have continued to provide financial support along with those who have made additional gifts to help during this time of need.

- ❖ As many have begun to receive the government Stimulus Checks, I invite you to consider offering a portion of that to your Parish. (Some parishioners have already done so, for which I/we am/are grateful.) Certainly, the intention is to help you in your need, and that need should always be met first. It is also intended to help "stimulate" the economy during this time, another important piece. Still, there will be some who either do not have an economic need at this time, and, in those cases, again, consideration for offering a portion of this to your Parish is greatly appreciated.
- ❖ You may also consider offering part of this for financial support for Good Neighbors of Tallmadge and the Blessed Trinity Food Pantry, both of which your Parish supports throughout the year and who, now, more than ever, can use the support for those they continue to service.

An "Emergency Assistance" Fund has been established to provide limited financial assistance to parishioners in need at this time.

Through a grant received from the Catholic Community Foundation of the Diocese of Cleveland (\$5,000.00) and matched by Our Lady of Victory (total Fund = \$10,000.00)

(through our Parish Poor Fund), we have established an "Emergency Assistance" Fund for parishioners in need at this time who have been economically impacted by the current Pandemic.

- (1) Requests for assistance may be made by any registered Parishioner, who
- (2) Since March 15, 2020, has either been laid-off, furloughed, or who's job has been eliminated as the result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, and, as a result,
- (3) Needs financial assistance in the areas of: a) Mortgage Payments; b) Rent Payments; c) Utility Payments; d) Food or Prescription payments

PLEASE NOTE: Any outstanding amounts prior to March 15, 2020, do not qualify for consideration.

Simply complete the accompanying request form and send it to: Rev. Michael A. Matusz, Pastor, Our Lady of Victory Church, 73 North Avenue, Tallmadge, Ohio 44278. Email requests will not be accepted, as the request must be signed, and a copy of either a statement or notice or bill showing a current amount due, must accompany the request*. **Excludes Food/Prescriptions.*

Assistance from this Fund will be a possible maximum amount of: a) \$250/for an individual, living alone or b) \$500/for a household of 2 or more individuals.

We are grateful to both the Catholic Community Foundation and the donors to our Parish's Poor Fund for the opportunity to provide such assistance.

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

No. in Household _____ Date of Layoff/Furlough/Job Elimination _____

Need assistance for: Mortgage ___ Rent ___ Utilities ___ Food/Prescriptions ___

Current Amount due \$ _____ (Copy of statement, notice or bill must be attached).

Together, may we have hope in the One who lived, suffered, died . . . but rose again so that we might have life!

Lean on the Lord!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend Michael A. Matusz, Pastor

ENROLLMENT FORM



Our Lady of Victory Church
73 North Avenue
Tallmadge, OH 44278

To enroll online, use code
below or scan here: →

OH669



Faith Direct • Attention: Enrollment • 2901 Jones Branch Dr., Ste 300 • McLean, VA 22102 • 1-866-507-8757 (toll free) • www.faithdirect.net

Process my gifts on the: 4th or 15th of the month (please check only one box)

Weekly Offertory Gift: \$ _____

(Note: The total amount will be determined by the number of Sundays in the month. Some months have 5 Sundays.)

You may also choose to give to the following second and special collections as part of the regular monthly transaction.

COLLECTION	AMOUNT	MONTH	COLLECTION	AMOUNT	MONTH
<input type="checkbox"/> Education Endowment	\$ _____	Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Ascension	\$ _____	May
<input type="checkbox"/> PSR Books & Materials Fee	\$ _____	Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Peter's Pence	\$ _____	June
<input type="checkbox"/> OLV Replacement Account	\$ _____	Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacation Catch-Up	\$ _____	August
<input type="checkbox"/> For the Poor	\$ _____	Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Assumption	\$ _____	August
<input type="checkbox"/> Mary, Mother of God	\$ _____	January	<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic Education	\$ _____	August
<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic University	\$ _____	January	<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic Communications	\$ _____	September
<input type="checkbox"/> Church in Latin America	\$ _____	February	<input type="checkbox"/> All Souls	\$ _____	October
<input type="checkbox"/> Church in Eastern Europe	\$ _____	February	<input type="checkbox"/> Mission Sunday	\$ _____	October
<input type="checkbox"/> Black & Native American Missions	\$ _____	March	<input type="checkbox"/> All Saints	\$ _____	November
<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic Relief Services	\$ _____	March	<input type="checkbox"/> Campaign for Human Development	\$ _____	November
<input type="checkbox"/> Flowers & Decorations	\$ _____	April	<input type="checkbox"/> Flowers & Decorations	\$ _____	December
<input type="checkbox"/> Holy Land/Good Friday	\$ _____	April	<input type="checkbox"/> Retirement for Religious	\$ _____	December
<input type="checkbox"/> Easter Sunday (In addition to regular Sunday gift.)	\$ _____	April	<input type="checkbox"/> Immaculate Conception	\$ _____	December
<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic Home Missions	\$ _____	April	<input type="checkbox"/> Christmas	\$ _____	December
<input type="checkbox"/> Catechetical Services	\$ _____	May			

I would like to enroll in the Faith Direct program. I understand that my total monthly contribution amount will be transferred directly from my bank account or credit/debit card as stated above, a record of my gifts will appear on my bank or card statement, and my transfers will begin next month. I understand that I can increase, decrease or suspend my giving by contacting Faith Direct toll free at 1-866-507-8757. (All gifts provided to your Church originating as Automated Clearing House transactions comply with U.S. law.)

Signature: **X** _____ Date: _____

Name(s): (please print) _____

Street Address: _____ Church Envelope #: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Name as I/we would like it to appear on Offertory Cards: _____

I do not wish to receive Offertory Cards to place in the collection basket as a sign of my electronic giving.

If you choose to enroll by mail, you can contact Faith Direct at 1-866-507-8757 (toll-free) to set up online access to your account.

For Bank Account Debit: Please return this completed form and a voided check to Faith Direct Enrollment.

For Credit/Debit Card: Please complete the following... VISA MasterCard American Express Discover

Credit/Debit Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

If you have any questions about the Faith Direct program, please contact us at 1-866-507-8757 (toll free) or info@faithdirect.net.



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U.S. POSTAGE
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Permit No. 20

73 North Avenue ♦ Tallmadge, Ohio 44278
(330) 633-3637

Website – www.ourladyofvictory.net

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<https://www.facebook.com/ourladyofvictorychurchtallmadge>



We have HOPE!
Lean of the
Lord!
Important Information
inside