Dear Friends in Christ,

My friends, our Lord is presenting us all with a challenge as we continue a little longer with our suspension of public Masses. The challenge is for us to carry out the joy of the Resurrection in our hearts despite the grievances, anxiety, stress, and numerous adjustments that we all have to continue carrying out.
This has been a time of reflection for us priests as well. Some of us are doing fine, and others are struggling because bouts of loneliness can and do creep up on us. It is a time for us to see how we have lived out our priesthood, catch up with fellow priests that are our friends and examine what our relationship with our Lord is like.

I pray a Holy Hour everyday, remembering you all in my prayers during the time in front of our Crucified and Risen Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. I know a number of you are battling loneliness, irritations from family members because you are seeing more of each other than normal, and for the graces that you may need of which I am not aware. If you have special prayer intentions, please let me know, and I will pray for them during my daily Holy Hour.

As we continue for a little longer in more time in our homes, let us not lose sight of the joy of the Resurrection! It is a Truth deeper than you and I can imagine, and it is a source of constant hope. Know that I do keep you in my prayers. Be safe, allow Mother Mary to take care of you, and God bless you all.

_In Christo et Maria,_

Father Vogel
**Mass Intentions**

**Sunday, April 26**

For Parishioners of St. Bridget and St. Patrick's Parishes

**Tuesday, April 28** + Mary Ann Kerschmann by Laura Long

**Wednesday, April 29** + Connie Searing by Tyler Toomay

**Thursday, April 30** + Bill Cassidy by Gary and Katy Crabtree

**Sunday, May 3** For Parishioners of St. Patrick's and St. Bridget Parishes

**Gifts to God and Church**

Totals for week ending April 19, 2020

St. Bridget Parish: $6463.69
Dream Fund: $890.00
Youth Group: $11.00
Votive Candle: $0.00
Special Collection Holy Land: $80.00
Special Collection Easter: $140.00

Dream Fund MTD: $3090.50

Sign up for Electronic Giving

**Daily Mass Readings**

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**April 27: Annual Day of Prayer in Atonement and for the Healing of All Those Harmed by Sexual Abuse**

As part of the Day of Prayer on April 27, the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph invites the faithful to pray at these virtual events:

- Video of Bishop’s Invitation on Day of Prayer
- Day of Prayer Mass with Bishop Johnston, Monday, April 27th, 12:15 p.m. live-streamed
- Worship Aid for Mass
- “Stations of the Cross in Atonement for Abuse and for the Healing of All” by Fr. Paul Turner video to be posted soon; worship aid posted here.

Other possible ways to honor the day on your own include:

- saying a prayer
- lighting a candle in honor of a survivor
- praying the Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy or Stations of the Cross (see link above)

Diocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection Web Site
CRS Rice Bowl

We are collecting the Rice Bowls that were made available at the beginning of Lent. They can be dropped off at church and placed on the oak table in the vestibule, taken to the office, or brought in when Masses resume in May.

While The Catholic Key has suspended publication at this time, please visit the web site of the Diocese of Kansas City - St. Joseph for the most current information, columns, coronavirus updates and other news from around the diocese.
https://kcsjcatholic.org/

Reflection: The Will of God Will Keep You Safe

The Will of God is much more than a future plan God has laid out for you. It’s more than His hopes and dreams for you. His Will is your path to holiness and it is a source of the greatest consolation and joy. His Will is both active and passive (permissive). It’s active in that He has definite plans for you and calls you to discern those plans and embrace them. It’s passive in that He will permit certain evils to befall you as a result of your own sins and those of the whole world. Do not fear when God permits some evil or some suffering to come your way. Jesus Himself is the perfect example of one who experienced the effects of the permissive Will of the Father. Do not be surprised or scandalized by what God permits. His passive and permissive Will invites you to trust in Him in all things and allows you to grow in faith and trust of Him no matter what your future holds. Do not be afraid of that which God permits. (See Diary #541).

Reflect upon any way that you are confused or even scandalized by what God has allowed to happen in your life. Know that He knows what He desires and He knows what He permits. Do not be afraid of His permissive Will. Do not be afraid to accept all that befalls you with faith and confidence. What God permits is done so as to manifest His providential care for you and as a way of increasing your own faith and trust in Him.

Lord, when I suffer, I sometimes doubt Your love and care for me. I question whether You are there, sustaining me and leading me. Give me the grace I need to endure all the effects of sin in our world. Help me to face the effects of my own sin and those of the world with courage and confidence in Your protective hand. Jesus, I trust in You (This free reflection can be found at: https://divinemercy.life/2020/04/23/reflection-115-the-will-of-god-will-keep-you-safe-2/)
Help Outpace Poverty, with Catholic Charities during the month of May when we host a (Virtual) 5K Run/Walk that benefits our work in addressing poverty. Many of the features you have enjoyed in the past will remain the same, only we will not necessarily all be in one place, at one time. Instead, we will ask our team members to participate individually or if together, maintaining at least the 6 ft. suggested social distance. The funds raised by this event have taken on heightened importance: at-risk families are struggling even more in these anxious and uncertain times. They may have lost wages or even their employment due to restaurant, retail and venue closures. School closures may mean that their children have lost food security as part of their educational day. And an unfortunate number will deal with the actual illness. We are seeing a large increase in requests for assistance, and we will be there to answer the need. You can be part of that answer by registering at www.outpacepoverty.org. The registration fee of $25 includes a t-shirt. Please contact Nancy Butters, Development Manager, with questions or help registering at nbutters@ccharities.com or 816-659-8266.

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and

2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and

3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Services Coordinator, Kathleen Chastain, at 816.392.0011 or chastain@diocesekcsj.org for more information.
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the Heier family and Allied Litho of Kansas City.