

Mary Magdalene Church

Mary Magdalene Church is an inclusive church in the Catholic tradition, where people from all faiths and backgrounds are welcome to the Lord's Table. We strive to live the values that Jesus taught, to honor and respect each individual and to share the joy of God's unconditional love, in our community and beyond.

Mary Magdalene Church Bulletin Sunday, April 19, 2020



Photo by Emma van der Kraan on Unsplash

Christ,
Come right through
our fear of locked pandemic doors;
breathe your Holy Spirit into us.
Give us please your peace
that comes from
perfect
love.

Not to hoard such treasure, we want to give it out to everyone who would believe.

Make us instruments of the power of your resurrection.

Anne Osdieck Sunday Website St Louis University

Greetings!

I hope you'll join us tomorrow morning for our liturgy on <u>Facebook Live</u>. We'll go live 10 minutes early to help give everyone time to find the link and get connected.

Our Gospel this week presents us with an accounting of Jesus appearing to the disciples after his resurrection. We encounter the disciples behind locked doors in fear. In some ways we may feel a bit like the disciples right now in our own homes, sheltering in a time when life feels so unsure. On top of the health crisis we are also facing an economic crisis as so many people are out of work. We know that this pandemic takes a toll most especially on those who are most disadvantaged, those who are poor, for whom putting a meal on the table was already a struggle, and then of course there are those who are deemed essential workers who do not have the protective equipment that they need, everyone from bus drivers to grocery store clerks, not to mention the medical professionals that are on the front-lines of this. And now we are learning that the black and brown communities are especially hard hit, most especially because of the economic situations that these communities find themselves in, especially as a result of the continued impact of racism, as well as pre-existing conditions such as high blood pressure.

We're finding different ways to get through this for ourselves, in many ways we're the fortunate ones as we have a home to be able to shelter in, and we have the benefit of strong social networks. For those who are homeless, in refugee camps, those incarcerated, those on the border, especially children separated from their family this is especially difficult and these populations are most at risk. This is a time when we need to come together globally. You may have seen the special- "One World Together at Home" that was in support of health care workers and the World Health Organization and Global Citizen. The only way to fight a world wide pandemic is to be one world, and do our part.

Sandy McNamara continues her dedication to the East Rochester Resource Center on behalf of all of us! She will be at church this Tuesday in the parking lot from 10:00-10:30 to receive your donations of non-perishable food, especially cereal, pastas, sauces, mac & cheese, soups, beans, toilet paper, paper towels, and cleaning supplies. She'll have her trunk open to make it easy for people to drop things off with maintaining social distance. Thank you Sandy!!!

Are you fairly new to Mary Magdalene Church? If you've joined us in the past year, we'd love to invite you to a virtual coffee hour on Saturday, May 2 at 10:30 am on Zoom. I'll share a little bit of our history and help you understand a bit more about how we tick as a community. We'd love to hear a bit more about you as well. You can join us: New Parishioner Coffee Hour

This week our 1st Communion children have put together a prayer video that Emma is in the process of putting on our website. They took the prayer the Our Father and they added prayers for all those who are impacted by the Coronavirus. It's a beautiful video- make sure you check it out: www.marymagdalenechurch.org

We send our love and condolences to Caryl Marchand. Her husband Dick passed away peacefully on Monday after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease. I also ask for your prayers for Tommy Privitere who had a heart attack on Friday. We pray for his complete recovery.

One of the things that our community has always loved and we now miss is our coffee hour after Mass. Beginning this Sunday, Lori and Rebecca will be hosting a virtual coffee hour right after Mass: <u>Sunday Morning Coffee Hour</u> It

will be a great opportunity to be together to process what it's like to share liturgy in this way and connect with one another!!

Please know that the links to all of our liturgies, prayers and events are now very easy to find on our website: www.marymagdalenechurch.org Go to the tab marked "Going Virtual." You will also find these events in the calendar. I will continue to have a box of links further down in this bulletin so that wherever you may be you can access what you need.

This Wednesday morning, join me at 10:00 for coffee and prayer. I'd love to share with you some of the reading I did this week on retreat, esepcially the book "The Time is Now" by Sr Joan Chittister.

With Much Love

Bishop Denise

Note from Our Board:

Friends, we want to thank you for your thoughtful and generous love, support and donations through the years! We have set up a donation button through our bulletin for those who would like to donate. We understand these are difficult times, so if you have the need to change your automatic donation as there's been a change in your finances we completely understand. Please just reach out to our treasurer, Sue Pagano suepagano@gmail.com Many blessings,

Odysseus Adamides, Regine Calvar, Chris O'Brien, Sue Pagano, Bill Smith, Binnie Thompson, Jim Kerg (alternate), Pat Moriarty (Parish Moderator)

Donate!



Opportunities to Pray:

Praying the Rosary: 8:00 a.m. Daily

Coffee & Prayer: Wednesdays at 10:00

Stations of the Cross: Fridays at 3:00



Virtual Coffee Hours

Social Distancing may prevent us from gathering together in person, but we can find other ways of being together

Sunday 11:00 Coffee Hour

Friday 1:00 Coffee Hour

New Parishioner Coffee Hour

FOR MEETINGS: USING ZOOM

- 1. Click on the link in the bulletin
- 2.When "Zoom" asks if it is OK to download and install on your computer, each time say "Yes!"

Zoom will do the rest.

Smart Phone or Tablet:

Click on the link in the bulletin

Zoom will direct you to download the App

The App is free. Zoom will do the rest.

FOR SUNDAY MASS FACEBOOK LIVE

You don't need a Facebook account.

Click on the link in the bulletin

You will be directed to the Mary Magdalene FB page you don't have to join Facebook just click "not at this time"

Look for the "Live" button on the upper left corner of the page to join.

WE ARE A EUCHARISTIC PEOPLE AND WE LONG TO GATHER AT EUCHARIST TOGETHER AGAIN. UNTIL THEN....

In the last few weeks, we've spent a great deal of time reflecting theologically, spiritually and prayerfully, as well as staying abreast of CDC guidelines and directives from the State. I say **WE** as I've been meeting virtually with the Ministry Team and Trustees, as well as talking with other ECC pastors. This is a time unlike any other and we've really needed to focus on ritual, tradition, and sacrament, as well as the role of community gathered in one place, versus community gathered from our separate homes. And we've also had to think about the precautions due to the virus itself. Let's face it practicing social distance and the concern for spread impacts everything we do right now. But, one thing we all agee- when we are together in prayer the Holy Spirit brings us together across the miles.

We are a Eucharistic people and the Sacrament of Eucharist is very important to our souls. And yet in these times, we are unable to celebrate Eucharist in the way that speaks to our hearts. So how do we celebrate in a meaningful way, remembering that Last Supper that Jesus shared with his loved ones. Following the direction of Bishop Francis Krebs, the Presiding Bishop of our Ecumenical Catholic Communion, as well as the prayerful ways we have been asking the Holy Spirit to guide us through this process, we will ask God who is the source of all blessings, to bless a bit of bread and wine, or crackers and grapes, or whatever you may have. As Bishop Frank said "we may ask the Holy Spirit to bless these elements so that we may experience our life and unity in Christ. If indeed we experience hope and love and faith, we will have a sign that God is truly present (for these "theological virtues" cannot be present without God being present) and that we are truly united in them. We are missing the most basic actions of actually physically gathering as the Body of Christ, of breaking and sharing the

bread and sharing the cup, etc. There is a lot that is missing. But we are doing our best to be faithful to God in a difficult time and to draw sustenance from God's gifting hand. It won't be the Eucharist in the way that we would prefer, but it could be a rich time of faith "together," and certainly a way to encourage each other, and more importantly to receive God's encouragement, in our socially distanced lives." I see it as sharing what the disciples called an "Agape Meal." In the early church they each brought something to share, like a potluck and they shared a whole meal together when they gathered, not just bread and wine. It will not replace the longing in our hearts for that Sacramental consecration of Eucharist that we celebrate in the sanctuary that we love, surrounded by our Mary Magdalene Family for sure. But while this is not Sacrament with a Capital "S", I believe that there are many ways that we celebrate sacrament with a small "s" by sharing God's love with others in our daily lives. While recognizing that this Sunday and subsequent weeks are different from what we are used to, I took comfort in Bishop Frank's closing line. "Let's not underappreciate what we are doing, i.e., sharing our life in the living God who sustains us in all circumstances."

So in preparation for liturgies, light a candle, gather a bit of bread, crackers, cheese, grapes or wine whatever you may have on hand. And have your laptop or mobile phone ready to connect over the internet. If you have any particular prayers for the Prayers of the Faithful you can type those in the comments and everyone will be joined together in those prayers. May we feel the unity of being connected through the Holy Spirit, praying with one mind and one heart!!

Do you have someone you want us to pray for?

To add someone to the prayer chain contact: Christine Kaiser cmkaiser@rochester.rr.com
Or Joann Corso at 223-5682

If you'd like to connect with Rev Denise directly: <u>revdenised@gmail.com</u> Or 585-329-0895

If you'd like to join our team of "prayers" and be notified where there are some prayer needs, please send an email to Christine Kaiser:

cmkaiser@rochester.rr.com



Bishop Denise Donato Mary Magdalene Church 1008 Main Street

East Rochester, NY 14445

Phone: (585) 586-4104

Email: revdenised@gmail.com

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