Pray for all those affected by the Coronavirus

Peace
I leave with you;
my peace I give to you.
Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.

— John 14:27
PARISH SUPPORT
What We Collected (March 22): $2,164*

*Includes $765 received through our Online Giving program and $1,399 from mail-in offerings.

Thank you for your support of our parish!
Thank you also to those of you who are mailing in your offertory envelopes. Your continuing financial support of the parish is crucial for its ongoing operation and the obligations to employees, etc.

ONLINE GIVING
We welcome the three new families who this past week opened an online giving account. Are you interested in supporting our parish through the convenience of Online Giving? If so, please visit our secure Online Giving website for more info and to register: www.osvonlinegiving.com/1754

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES
In your envelope set is a Catholic Relief Services collection envelope dated March 29. This collection helps six Catholic agencies to provide struggling communities with relief and support and to work for peace and reconciliation among our marginalized brothers and sisters here and around the world. Please prayerfully consider supporting this collection by mailing your donation to the parish office. Learn more about this collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

SANCTUARY LAMP
The lamps beside the tabernacles in our churches remind us of the Real Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist.

† The light at the Our Lady of Peace Church burns this week
For a Quick End to the Coronavirus Battle
† The candle at the Saint Christopher Church burns this week
In Loving Memory of
Fran Tebecio
(Jean Nowik & Joe Martocci)

Please call the parish office to schedule a Sanctuary Lamp dedication. Suggested offering is $15.
CORONAVIRUS UPDATES
Keep up to date on how the coronavirus is affecting our schedule of Masses and parish events by visiting our website at stedmundcampionparish.org or by calling the parish office at 860-568-5240 to hear a recorded message. View Archdiocesan updates by visiting archdioceseofhartford.org/coronavirus.

CONFESSIONS
Father John is hearing Confessions on the following Monday evenings from 6:00-7:00 pm: March 30 and April 6 and on Saturdays at 3:00 pm. Confessions will be heard through the privacy screen rather than face to face.

MARIAN GARDEN
We are pleased to report that after we announced that production changes had been made to the Marian Garden, several brick orders have already been received and installed in the Garden. The turnaround time is quicker than ever! Bricks can be engraved to memorialize a loved one, honor someone special, commemorate an event (i.e., baptism, First Communion, graduation, anniversary) or you can even have your own name engraved on a brick. Donation levels begin at $50. If you’d like to learn more about ordering a brick, please call the parish office at 860-568-5240 or visit our website at stedmundcampionparish.org/mariangarden.php.

Palm Sunday

Palms are on their way! We are working on a plan to make these palms available to our parishioners. Please watch for an announcement to be posted on the home page of our website or you can call the parish office anytime after Wednesday, April 1.

HOLY WEEK
The parishes of the Archdiocese of Hartford are preparing for what had been, before the coronavirus pandemic, unthinkable: holy week and Easter without public liturgies. In next weekend’s bulletin we will publish what spiritual opportunities will be available to you during this most holy season of the liturgical year.
Create a Family Prayer Space at Home

In the coming weeks, families will be spending more time together at home. One good use of this time would be to pray together on a regular basis. This prayer time together can be enhanced by creating a place in your home dedicated to prayer.

Making a place for prayer in our home can help us do what the Gospel tells us, to go into an “inner room” to pray (Matthew 6:6). Make your prayer place as quiet, uncluttered, and “desert-like” as possible. It can be the corner of a room or any unused space. Furnish your prayer place with a Bible, prayer books, cross, rosary, icons, and a candle. Encourage family members to use the prayer place for personal as well as family prayer. You can bless your place of prayer, saying:

Come, Holy God. Dwell in this place of prayer,
and bless it with your peace and presence.
Bless all who seek you here.
In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

If you are unable to go to Mass, one idea for prayer together is to find a resource with the prayers and readings for Sunday Mass and pray those together. Your parish may have something you can take home and use. You can find the find the readings online at www.usccb.org.

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Prayer for Health Care Workers

God of everlasting goodness,
you sent your Son among us
to bring healing, peace, and reconciliation to our weary world.
Be with all health care workers and their assistants in this time of the Coronavirus pandemic.

As they continue Jesus’ ministry of care, renew them in mind, body, and spirit.
Keep them safe from infection and illness,
and may Christ’s healing presence flow through them as they serve those entrusted to their care.

We ask this in his name,
Christ the healer,
who is Lord forever and ever.
Amen.

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Readings for the Week

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<th>Readings</th>
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<td>Nm 21:4-9; Ps 102:2-3, 16-21; Jn 8:21-30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; Dn 3:52-56; Jn 8:31-42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Gn 17:3-9; Ps 105:4-9; Jn 8:51-59</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Jer 20:10-13; Ps 18:2-7; Jn 10:31-42</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Ez 37:21-28; Jer 31:10, 11-13; Jn 11:45-56</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Mt 21:1-11 (procession); Is 50:4-7; Ps 22:8-9, 17-20, 23-24; Phil 2:6-11; Mt 26:14 — 27:66 [27:11-54]</td>
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Saints and Special Observances

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<td>Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>St. Isidore; First Saturday</td>
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Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, has issued the following regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19):

With the worldwide outbreak of the coronavirus, we are confronted once more with the fragility of our lives, and again we are reminded of our common humanity — that the peoples of this world are our brothers and sisters, that we are all one family under God.

God does not abandon us, he goes with us even now in this time of trial and testing. In this moment, it is important for us to anchor our hearts in the hope that we have in Jesus Christ. Now is the time to intensify our prayers and sacrifices for the love of God and the love of our neighbor. Let us draw closer to one another in our love for him, and rediscover the things that truly matter in our lives.

United with our Holy Father Pope Francis, let us pray in solidarity for our brothers and sisters here and around the world who are sick. Let us pray for those who have lost loved ones to this virus. May God console them and grant them peace.

We pray also for doctors, nurses, and caregivers, for public health officials and all civic leaders. May God grant them courage and prudence as they seek to respond to this emergency with compassion and in service to the common good.

In this time of need, I invite all the faithful to seek together the maternal intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, and I share this prayer with you:

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, 
Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas. 
We fly to you today as your beloved children. 
We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, 
as you did at the wedding in Cana. 

Pray for us, loving Mother, 
and gain for our nation and world, 
and for all our families and loved ones, 
the protection of your holy angels, 
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted, 
we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance. 
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, 
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing, 
teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind. 
Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, 
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, 
health of the sick and cause of our joy.

Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, 
keep us in the embrace of your arms, 
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

Today’s Readings

First Reading — Thus says the Lord GOD: I will open your graves, have you rise from them, and settle you on your land. Then you shall know I am the LORD, O my people! (Ezekiel 37:12-14).

Psalm — With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption (Psalm 130).

Second Reading — If Christ is in you, the spirit is alive even if the body is dead because of sin (Romans 8:8-11).

Gospel — Lazarus, dead for four days, came out of his tomb when Jesus called his name (John 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]).


Give Glory To God

On the Fifth Sunday of Lent, just before we begin to enter Holy Week, we are summoned to Bethany. If we had been friends of Mary, Lazarus, and Martha, and found out that Lazarus was gravely ill, we probably would have dropped everything to be with them. This was what was so surprising about the behavior of Jesus. Although he was their close friend, he chose to stay away, that God’s glory would be manifested. This is a persistent theme in John’s Gospel. Right to the very end, Jesus’ works were meant to give glory to the Father. As our Lenten journey reaches a crescendo, let us be mindful that, as people who have “put on Christ” in baptism, we are also called, by our attitudes and actions, to give glory to God. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.
In remote villages of Ethiopia, girls do not always enjoy the opportunity to receive an education. They often are expected to care for family members, and many are encouraged to marry early, at ages as young as 12. For Zeineba, a seventh-grade girl in one rural village, education continues to help her grow and build future opportunities. Her academic scores have improved, she has more confidence, and she leads a group of students that provides support for other girls.

Through the support of Catholic Relief Services and partnerships between the Church and local communities, girls like Zeineba are able to stay in school. They receive tutoring and school fee assistance to help them to reach their full potential. Even girls who have left school are helped through training programs that give them opportunities to invest in their own small businesses.

Unlike her mother, who never went to school, and her older sisters, who married before completing their education, Zeineba continues her studies with the hope of someday becoming a doctor. She not only has a bright future but sets an example for neighbors and for her two younger sisters. "I'm teaching my sisters to follow in my footsteps," she says.

Your generosity helps support educational opportunities for girls like Zeineba and for children in 38 countries worldwide.

Your Donations Help Our Brothers and Sisters . . .

In the United States
Feed Jesus' hunger in suffering refugees . . . through the USCCB's Migration and Refugee Services (MRS).

Offer legal assistance to Jesus in struggling immigrants . . . through the Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC).

Reach out to comfort Jesus' loneliness in isolated workers . . . through the pastoral work of the USCCB Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church.

And Around the World
Give water to quench Jesus' thirst in the people of Syria and Niger . . . through the humanitarian work of Catholic Relief Services (CRS).

Advocate on behalf of Jesus in the poor and marginalized . . . through the public policy work of the USCCB Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development.

Send aid to Jesus in the victims of natural disaster . . . through the Holy Father's Relief Fund.