



## **ST. PATRICK OF THE ISLAND**

278 Shamrock Drive, Pincourt, Quebec J7W 3W8

Tel: 514-453-2492

Email: islandchurch@videotron.ca

## **WEEK OF APRIL 5, 2020 – PALM SUNDAY**

### **DAILY MASS**

**During these difficult times, when attending Mass in person is not possible, we offer three different resources to hear and watch daily Mass.**

- **Vision TV, Mass is on Mon-Sat at 8 am and noon; on Sundays at 9 am – please check your local listing.**
- **Via internet, Bishop Robert Barron will celebrate Mass every day in his private chapel. <https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass>**
- **<https://dailytvmass.com/>**

**While you are watching Mass, you can receive a Spiritual Communion as follows:**

### **- HOW TO MAKE A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

- **Here is an article that explains how to commune spiritually, when we are prevented from sacramental communion.**
- **What is spiritual communion?**
- **It is Communion with Christ present in the Eucharist, not by receiving him sacramentally, but by the sole desire proceeding from faith. The value of spiritual communion rests on faith in the presence of Christ in the Eucharist as the source of life, love and unity. It is a privileged means of uniting with Christ for those who cannot commune physically. (John 4:15) The Samaritan woman says to Jesus, "Lord, give me some of this water, that I may not thirst any more..."**
- **A simple little method for living spiritual communion**
- **1. Make an act of faith (say a prayer of your choice).**
- **2. Make an act of desire, making oneself totally available to His Word and to what He wants to tell us. Desire that the Lord make his dwelling place in us. Here we recommend reading the Gospel of the day, meditating on it, and saying the inspired prayer of St. Alphonsus Liguori (below).**

- 3. Give thanks in the same way as if we had really been in communion with the Body of Christ, giving thanks to the Father and asking him by his Spirit to unfold in us all the fruits of charity.
- Christ is always there with His Church (the people of God), especially in liturgical actions. He is there present in the sacrifice of the Mass. He is present, by his power, in the sacraments to the point that when someone baptizes, it is Christ himself who baptizes. He is there present in his word, for it is he who speaks while the Holy Scriptures are read in the Church. Finally, he is present when the Church prays and sings the psalms, he who promised: "Where two or three are gathered together (spiritually) in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Mt 18:20). (From the Conciliar Constitution on the Liturgy SC7)
- *Prayer inspired by St. Alphonsus Liguori*
- *Lord Jesus, I believe in your presence in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you more than anything else and I desire that you come again today in my soul. Like many other Christians in the world, I cannot receive you sacramentally today in my Heart. Far from my community, however, I am with each one of my brothers and sisters, available today to Your Word. I know that You are there, truly present, listening to the clamor of the world. Come and visit me spiritually. Come and speak to me as to each one of your friends. Hold me in the communion of all the saints. Keep me united to the whole Church in heaven and on earth. I want to unite myself to you entirely. Do not allow me to be separated from you. Amen*

## **LENTEN PROJECT**

**For Lent, we will publish the readings for this Sunday to give you opportunity to read/reflect on the Word of God.**

**April 5<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday**

***We follow our Lord on his journey from beloved to despised. His journey will take an unexpected turn.***

**Matthew 21: 1-11 – We celebrate Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem.**

**Isaiah 50: 4-7 – God helps us in the most distressing of times.**

**Philippians 2: 6-11 – Jesus did not exploit his Godhood but emptied himself to become human.**

**Matthew 26: 14-27: 66 – Passion of Christ.**



## **LENTEN REFLECTION for PALM SUNDAY**

Every year on Palm Sunday I'm struck by the two very different accounts from the Gospel. First, we read about Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Everyone was excited, celebrating, throwing their cloaks on the ground for Jesus to walk on and waving palms enthusiastically in the air. Jesus' disciples never imagined how quickly things would change in such a short period of time. Oh, how we can relate.

When we read about Jesus' last days, we can feel the uncertainty, the fear. It feels a lot like it does now, for us living through this pandemic. We want to know when it will end. We want to know *how* it will end. The disciples felt the same way. Lost, scared, confused. As Christians living 2000 years after Jesus' death and resurrection, we have the advantage of hindsight. We know how long Jesus would remain dead and when he would resurrect and when he would show himself. We look at Peter, denying Jesus not once but three times and we shake our heads. But fear can make people do irrational things, like denying a dear friend -- or hoarding toilet paper.

The Gospel leaves us in a dark place. Jesus dies on the cross and the disciples are scattered. Where is the hope? God never promised us a life without pain or heartache. Instead we have been promised that God will always be with us. If we look more closely at these events, we can find hope.

Although Judas betrayed Jesus, he eventually saw the error of his ways and tried to repent. Simon of Cyrene helped Jesus carry the cross. When the skies darkened and the earth shook, the soldiers near Jesus' cross came to believe. Matthew tells us that a group of women faithfully followed Jesus from his beginning in Galilee to the tomb in Jerusalem. Joseph of Arimathea showed kindness and bravery when he asked the governor, Pilate, for Jesus' body and paid for the burial. Albeit small, these are glimpses of God's kingdom.

When times are good, it's easy to find hope, to have faith, to be loving. In these difficult times, we're being called upon to look harder for hope, to be on the lookout for help in unexpected places. To *be* love.

We are living the Easter Triduum: the anguish and loneliness of Holy Thursday, the grief and darkness of Good Friday, the uncertainty and fear of Holy Saturday. But rest assured, Easter Sunday is coming. Hold on to hope, hold on to faith, hold on to love. Hold on.

- Melissa Wiebe

**LET US CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK:**

**Jean & Joseph Gabriel, Edward Bertrand, Maria Linck, Jacques R., Bob Forest, Tom Law, Heather Coulter, Anthony Hulse, Paule, Theresa Hannan, Noah & Bailey Santos, Jean Clifford, Gordon Hincks, Kayla Cordeiro, Helen Lalonde, Helene Larose Pullin, Allison Latham, Caron Rothwell, Caiti Dore, Andria MacDonald, Karen Descoeurs, Mary & Marian Lapchak, Betty, Gerry & Mary Guy, Elaine Kerr, Claude Bourbonnais, Catherine Shea, John Battaglia, Frank McCluskey, Virginia Camus, Antanas, Nadia Lombardi, Cathy Good, Molly Gillette, Michel Leclerc, Ralph Jenkins, Kathleen Guy.**

**Anyone affected by the virus.**

**Pope Francis' Prayer For These Times:**

***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, Salvation of the Roman People, 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.***