



Holy Name Cathedral



Electronic Bulletin
Weekend of May 10, 2020

Message from the Rector

A Blessed and Happy Mother's Day to our moms and all women who love in a motherly way. God bless you always.

May 9, 1979 was a beautiful and warm Wednesday. I had anxiously and with much joy awaited Ordination Day along with my thirty classmates. Eight years of Seminary training, prayer and studies all melted into one glorious morning inside the Chapel of The Immaculate Conception on the grounds of St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein. Four years at Niles College Seminary of Loyola University and an additional four more years at Mundelein Seminary moved quickly, which brought me to Ordination Day as a young 26 year old.

I am now 67 years old and the last 41 years have been and absolute blur. There is truth to the statement that life moves faster as one grows older! A picture frame sits in my office, which contains an invitation to my First Mass, which reads: "Today I am given to you by God that I might serve you and that together we might serve Him."

I have often read and prayed over these words. God has truly blessed me in all five priestly assignments: Church of the Holy Spirit in Schaumburg, Niles College Seminary of Loyola University, St. Mary of the Woods, St. Mary Parish in Evanston and now Holy Name Cathedral. Five wonderful assignments which have truly shaped who I am today through loving, generous, caring and faith-filled people along the journey.

On their wedding day, two people stand before God, family and friends and commit themselves to a life of marriage. Yet, the couple does not know what they are getting themselves into at that moment. The same was true on my Ordination Day. Amidst all the excitement, joy, hopes and fears I did not know what I was getting myself into 41 years ago. There have been many happy, joyous and fulfilling days. At the same time, there have been hard and lonely days. But through God's grace, love and presence (through all of you) Priesthood has been an opportunity to live out this deep conviction: "I tell you with my life that God is good, loving, forgiving and compassionate."

I truly thank God for the gift of Priesthood and I daily thank God for the gift of you – the loving, faith-filled and caring staff, resident priests, sisters and people of Holy Name Cathedral. We have laughed often and at times cried. The fantastic Faith Community of Holy Name Cathedral has blessed and enriched my life in ways you will never imagine as your Rector. For this, I thank you with all my heart

However, I realize everything has changed these last two months and our world has been turned upside down with the start of COVID-19. I miss seeing all of you at our Cathedral very, very much! The liturgy and Eucharist are connected to all that we do and everything begins around the Table of the Lord. I stress to everyone churches are not closed, buildings are closed. You are the Church. We are the Body of Christ. We all miss our liturgies and we will soon have procedures to once again reopen our Cathedral doors. It will be different by way of numbers. Details are forthcoming.

Speaking of change, this Mother's Day is very difficult for me and my three siblings. Our Mother died last January 16. Mom is now home with God and singing with the angels. I miss my Mother very, very much and I will spend time this Mother's Day at St. Adalbert Cemetery. I always knew this day would come and our family was deeply blessed to have our dear Mom until God called her home at the age of 97.

I share with you my bulletin column from May 12, 2019. It was Mother's Day last year and the previous weekend (May 5, 2019) I celebrated with all of you my 40th Anniversary to the Priesthood. This column combines both the 40th Anniversary celebration and Mother's Day. I dedicated last year's column to my Mother. I do the same today. I will forever love and cherish all my wonderful and splendid memories with my Mother close to my heart.

May 12, 2019 Bulletin Column

I give thanks to God for all of you, for last weekend I celebrated my 40th Anniversary to the Priesthood! What a marvelous celebration! God has truly blessed my life through your love, kindness, affirmation, faith, friendship and humor over the years. I have been blessed and loved in ways over the last 40 years I never imagined during my seminary days in the 1970's. There are so many to thank, which would be an impossible task in one writing. However, there is one individual who does deserve special honor and attention this day. The love and care of my family has been extraordinary over the years, but our Mother has been the glue of the Sakowicz Clan.

All vocation studies indicate the profound love and faith of a Mother is a catalyst for any priestly vocation. It would certainly be true in my journey to the priesthood. My Mother has a deep faith and trust in God which she passed on to her children more in action than by word. So on this Mother's Day I would like to offer my Mother – the greatest Mom in the world and now 96 years young – a Blessed and Happy Mother's Day! I love you, Mom, and I share my 40th Anniversary to the Priesthood with you, the entire family, HNC Faith Community and all who have touched my life. I would like to share with you a beautiful Mother's Day reflection.

Read . . . and pass it on . . .

The Angel

A child was ready to be born. The child asked God, "I know you are sending me to earth tomorrow, but how can I survive there?"

I am so small and helpless." God replied, "I have chosen a special angel for you there. She will love you and take care of you."

"Your angel will also sing for you, and she will teach you how to sing, too. And you'll learn to laugh as well as smile. Your angel and I will take care of that.""And when I want to talk to You . . .?"

"You angel will gently place your little hands together and teach you how. That's the simplest language of all. It's called prayer."

"Who will protect me there, God?" "Your angel is soft and gentle, but if something threatens you, there is no stronger force on earth than the power she'll use to defend you."

"I'll be sad not getting to see You anymore.""I will always be next to you, even though you can't see Me. And your angel will teach you the way to come back to Me if you stray."

Then it was time to go. Excited voices could be heard from earth, anticipating the child's arrival. In a hurry, the babe asked softly, "Oh, God, I must go now, please tell me my angel's name!"

And God replied, "You will call your angel Mommy."

~ Source Unknown


God's Blessings to all women who love in a motherly way! And a Blessed and Happy Mother's Day!

By the way, I once asked my Mother: "What is your definition of motherhood?" Mom looked at me and said, "A willingness to be inconvenienced." All I can add is – Amen! My mother has been an angel my entire life. Forever I will give thanks to God (along with my siblings) for our angel.

.With joy and gratitude, Fr. Greg

Sunday, May 10 is Mother's Day

A PRAYER FOR ALL MOTHERS



"I thank you, Creator of us all, for my mother. I thank you that she gave me life and nurtured me all those years. She gave me my faith, helping me to know you and to know Jesus and his ways. She taught me how to love and how to sacrifice for others. She taught me that it was okay to cry and that I should always tell the truth. Bless her with the graces she needs and which you want to give her today. Help her to feel precious in your eyes today and to know that I love her. Give her strength and courage, compassion and peace. Bless her this day with your love."

Amen

Source: Creighton University
Online Ministries



Holy Name Cathedral



Marian Crowning - Mother's Day

Please join us for the Marian Crowning from our Cathedral on Sunday, May 10, 2020 at 12:00 P.M.

We invite you to be with us virtually to participate in the Marian Crowning on Mother's Day.

Click this picture for the link to the Marian Crowning.

Prayers and Spiritual Messages



Prayers for the
Month of May

Click on image above for the Pope's prayers

**Enjoy Fr. Greg's
Spiritual Message for the 4th Sunday of Easter**



Reading and Reflection

The Saints and Our Coronavirus Retreat

We pray for those diagnosed with the virus; we pray for first responders, for those working in hospitals and nursing homes; we pray for all who are staffing pharmacies, grocery stores, carry-outs, and those driving buses and trains. We pray not to be infected and not to infect anyone.



But between "*stay-at-home*" and "*gradual release*," let me pray for myself, the self as God sees me. In reality, aren't we all on a semi-retreat? Don't we currently have something in common with those in cloisters and hermitages? Is a share of your day alone? Such an inconvenience; but may it also be an opportunity?

Our tradition is filled with inspiring stories of saints who as missionaries and martyrs marched into this angry or indifferent world and taught the Gospel by how they did what they did. But didn't most of them have their version of a "stay-at-home" experience? Without that "alone time," would they have been as accomplished, to know what and the how?

Saints and Reflections Complements of Fr. John Boivin

Click on the image above for the full reading and suggested reflections

Reading and Reflections continued

Become an Advocate for Social Justice - From Home!



While so many of our programs and events have been either canceled or postponed, there is some thing you can do from home.

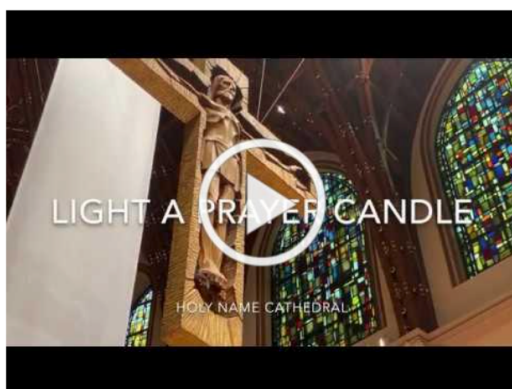
Rich Kaczmarek, a parishioner and lay leader in the RCIA program, suggests starting with the Catholic Bishops; document on The Challenges of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship. [Click Here](#) for a two-page summary. It includes the 7 key themes of Catholic Social Teaching.

Learning about Social Justice is an important step but translating it into action is what makes us a Christian. While we are all in our stay-at-home mode, this is the perfect time to reach out to your elected representatives with emails, handwritten letters, telephone calls, or petitions on key Social Justice issues like:

- Expand, not cut, programs to help reduce poverty
- Immigration - welcoming people forced to leave their native country due to lack of opportunity, violence, or oppression
- DACA - do not cancel program when it protects those who came to the U.S. as children
- Climate Change - support legislation focused on ways to reduce global warming

This is just a partial list of issues and just scratches the surfaces of what could be done while we are all at home. Thank you, Richard, for your recommendations!

Light a Prayer Candle at Holy Name Cathedral - watch the video to learn how



Online Masses



DAILY MASS FROM ST. JAMES CHAPEL

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER POPE FRANCIS

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“My Jesus, I believe that You are present
in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar.
I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into 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,”

A Little Humor from the Rector

Humor from the Rector



**“You know, Maude. We are about a week away
from knowing everyone’s real hair color!”**