

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE:

*Today's gospel instructs us Jesus "**had** to rise from the dead." The dying we experience with unmet expectations in marriage and parenting is normal to family life. Families **must** rise above disappointments and be Easter people all year long.*

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK:

Monday, April 13

8:30 a.m. -

Tuesday, April 14

8:30 a.m. - People of St. Gerard
Parish

Wednesday, April 15

8:30 a.m. - Nellie & Bill Getz +
Pete Leugers +
Kathleen Coffee +

Thursday, April 16

8:30 a.m. - Jeff Geise +

Friday, April 17

8:30 a.m. - Dan & Rick Sunderhaus+

Saturday, April 18

8:30 a.m. -

5:00 p.m. - Terry & Dan O'Brien +
Joe Barnes +
Mike, Bob & Mary Lou
Bowersock +

Sunday, April 19

8:30 a.m. - Ed Nixon +
Living & Deceased of the Recker
& Maureci Families +

11:00 a.m. - Jack Morrissey +
Living & Deceased of the Moyer,
Devlin, Thompson & Mansfield
Families

1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

Sunday, April 12 - EASTER SUNDAY

Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. (Online only)
9:00-10:30 a.m. - NO RCIA classes in the Cafeteria
9:30 - 10:45 a.m. - Parish School of Religion classes CANCELLED
1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass (Online only)

Monday, April 13

8:30 a.m. - Mass (Online only)

Tuesday, April 14 -

8:30 a.m. - Mass (Online only)

6:00-7:30 p.m. - **NO DVD SESSIONS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

Wednesday, April 15

8:30 a.m. - Mass (Online only)

Thursday, April 16

8:30 a.m. - Mass (Online only)

Friday, April 17

8:30 a.m. - Mass (Online only)

Saturday, April 18

8:30 a.m. - Mass (Online only)

5:00 p.m. - Mass (Online only)

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FINANCIAL REPORT:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
March, 5th week On-line: \$2,569.00	\$ 10,083.56	\$ 9,951.00
# of Envelopes	241	133
YTD Totals:	\$ 429,550.51	\$ 412,654.50

During this time of uncertainty, we ask that you please continue to support St. Gerard Church by sending in your weekly offertory donations, signing up to give online or consider giving a monthly donation. Thank you.

My Dear Parishioners,

It is my prayer and sincere hope that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy during these difficult times of this Coronavirus Pandemic.

In Chapter 8 of St. Matthew's Gospel, we hear the story of the apostle's fear and panic when they were confronted by an unexpected storm while riding in a boat with Jesus. However, once they called upon Jesus for help, their prayers were answered and the storm subsided. In these troubling days when the storm of the Coronavirus causes us fear and panic, we are asked to place ourselves in the care of our God. We must always remember that even though we are being asked to distance ourselves from each other, we are still connected deeply in faith, hope and love with our God and our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Whenever we gather together as a community of faith at the celebration of the Holy Mass, we encounter the presence

of God and one another in words of the Gospel and the reception of the Holy Eucharist. Although presently we are unable to gather together physically to express our love and gratitude for our Lord and each other, we still can rejoice in the strength and faith of our parish which is far greater than the challenges that we are presently experiencing.

Hopefully, many of you are able to view our daily Masses, as well as our weekend Masses via our live streaming. I encourage you to continue to do so and make a Spiritual Communion with us. As your Pastor, I have certainly felt the sense of loss by not having you physically at Mass. Just knowing that many of you are with us in spirit helps immensely.

With the suspension of our regular Sunday offertory collection, I am encouraging you to continue supporting our parish financially either by mailing in your envelopes, dropping by the parish office or electronically donating. I do understand that some of

you are suffering financially from loss of work and that you are dealing with the difficulties of trying to pay your own bills, but if at all possible, I ask that you continue to support St. Gerard Parish. I have been truly amazed at the response we have had thus far and I thank each and everyone of you for your generous gifts.

I want to again express my sincere gratitude for all you do for me and our parish community. As a strong community of faith, hope and love, we will emerge from this Coronavirus storm. Like the apostles on the Sea of Galilee, if we place our trust and hope in God, we will be saved from the harm of this pandemic and we will be victorious as a community of faith.

Please be assured of my prayers for you and your loved ones. God bless you and may Our Mother of Perpetual Help watch over us and protect us.

Easter Blessings,

**Fr. Mike Sergi, C.Ss.R.
Pastor**

ST. GERARD PRAYER

REQUESTS:

Requests for prayers, or if you would like



to become a prayer warrior, email your request to: stgprayerchain@gmail.com or call the Parish Office at 419-224-3080. A team of prayer warriors will pray daily for all the requests for 30 days. Requests for prayers are kept confidential and last name need not be given.

Easter Prayer

We thank you that Easter is not about *a* people, but *all* people.

THAT your love and your Salvation are for all who confess with voices, hearts and lives.

THAT the tomb is empty because Jesus is risen.

THAT we might know forgiveness.

THAT lives might be reborn and your name glorified now

and for eternity.
Amen



THE DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

The Lord specifically asked that this Novena be recited nine days before the Feast of Mercy, Sunday, 4/19/2020. "By this Novena, I will grant every possible grace to souls." It is to start on Good Friday.

4/10 First Day - Today bring to Me all mankind, especially all sinners and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy.

4/11 Second Day - Today bring to Me the souls of priest and religious, and immerse them in My unfathomable mercy.

4/12 Third Day - Today bring to Me all devout and faithful souls, immerse them in the ocean of My mercy.

4/13 Fourth Day - Today bring to Me those who do not believe in God and those who do not yet know Me.

4/14 Fifth Day - Today bring to Me the souls of those who have separated themselves from the Church.

4/15 Sixth Day - Today bring to Me the meek and humble souls and the souls of little children, and immerse them in My mercy.

4/16 Seventh Day - Today bring to Me the souls who especially venerate and glorify My mercy and immerse them in My mercy.

4/17 Eighth Day - Today bring to Me the souls who are detained in purgatory and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy.

4/18 Ninth Day - Today bring to Me souls who have become lukewarm, and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy.



St. Gerard has the Novena pamphlets at the entrances of church.

NOVENA PRAYER
TO OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

ADAPTED TO BE PRAYED IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 SITUATION



Mother of Perpetual Help,
with the greatest confidence we come before your holy picture
to beseech your intercession.

We think of you, Mother, at the foot of the Cross.
Your heart must have bled to see your Son in agony.
But your joy was great when He rose from the dead,
victorious over the powers of evil.

Mother of Sorrows,
pray for us in this time of trial.

Help us not to lose heart.

Intercede for your people who are afflicted with Coronavirus. Comfort your
people who are vulnerable and anxious.

Protect healthcare workers who put their lives at risk.

Inspire our leaders to make good decisions.

Change our hearts so that we may act responsibly.

Teach us to trust in God's love and mercy
and to share with you the joy
of having courageously faced up to all the challenges of Life.
Amen.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER:

Just a reminder that our church is open from 9:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday for Individual Private Prayer.

VIDEO STREAMING:

Is your family taking advantage of watching Mass online with us? We hope your family is joining us and participating in the Mass. Our webcam is on 24 hours a day.

FACEBOOK:

Social media is so important at this time in our lives. If you have not checked out our Facebook page, please do! Just look up St. Gerard Church and be sure to like us! Brother Dan shares a beautiful daily reflection each day on our facebook page. You will also find and updates concerning St. Gerard on this page.

ONLINE GIVING:

On-line giving is a great alternative to using your envelopes. It's easy to sign-up and you can do so by going to our website at: www.stgerardchurch.org and click on the on-line giving tab.

- **Safety.** In times when there are concerns about exposure to disease or spreading of a virus, Online Giving is a convenient option to continue to support your church and its mission.
- **Forget your envelope?** Use Online Giving to keep up on offertory. Go to our church website and click on the Online Giving link, it's quick and easy.
- **Make giving easier.** Visit your church website on your mobile device, click the Online Giving link, and begin giving.
- **Manage gifts.** Another easy way to manage your church giving is with Online Giving. You can manage your giving or give a one-time gift right from your phone.

Your support during the year helps sustain our church.

**** Please note that the Parish Office is open from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday.****

ST. GERARD CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

PLEDGES TO DATE

Amount Pledged: \$984,108.52
Amount Paid: \$850,878.23

Outstanding Balance:
\$133,230.29

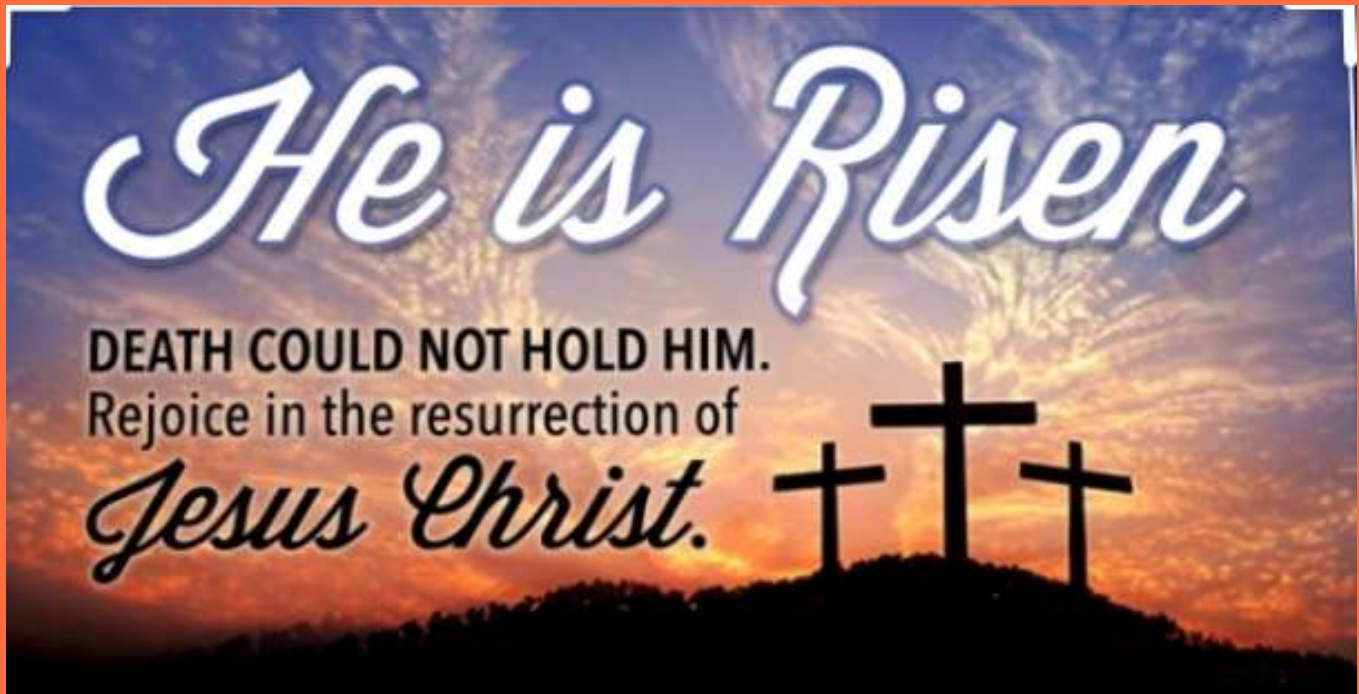
Goal: \$1,000,000.00

Only \$15,891.48 to go before we reach our goal!

Thank you to those who have sent in their envelope or dropped them off to the Parish Office. We have also had a nice increase of parishioners sign-up for online giving! We greatly appreciate it!

If you would like to mail in your offertory contributions, please send them to:

**St. Gerard Church
1307 N. Main St.
Lima, OH 45801**



**PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR
REDEMPTORIST VOCATIONS:**

Send forth Your Spirit, Lord, into the hearts of Your faithful people, that we may be conscious of our vocation to holiness and service to others. Grant that many of us may dedicate ourselves to You through the priesthood, religious life, and lay ministries.



We pray for the needs of our parish and diocese. Grant that we may always have sufficient good and holy priests and deacons, dedicated sisters and brothers, and committed lay ministers to serve our communities.

We pray too for the Redemptorists, that generous men may join them to become zealous missionaries, preaching the Gospel in word and action to the most abandoned, especially the poor.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.