

May 8, 2020

Dear Parishioners of Saint Petronille,

Mother's Day Blessing – Thank God for Mom!

We wish all the Mothers at St. Petronille a great and safe Mother's Day. Regrettably, we cannot join together to extend our special Mother's Day blessing due to Covid-19 virus and complying with our Governor's order to stay at home.

We will, however, offer a prayer of blessing during each of our Masses on Mother's Day weekend and we have created a special way, with the support of the Village, we can deliver our Mother's Day blessing individually to moms.

On Mother's Day, May 10 we will be extending a curbside blessing during the following time: 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Look for the large sign that says: "God bless Mom" with an image of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

We ask those participating to enter Hillside Avenue from Main Street, proceed West on Hillside and pause in front of St. Petronille, where a Priest/Deacon will be visible near curbside, in front of Church, to provide the blessing. Autos can then proceed to exit on Prospect Avenue.

In honor of mom, I share this poem from my favorite author:

There is but one and only one,
Whose love will fail you never.
One who lives from sun to sun,
With constant fond endeavor.

There is but one and only one
On earth there is no other.
In heaven a noble work was done
When God gave us a Mother.
- Author Unknown

May Crowning

The association of the month of May with the Blessed Virgin Mary goes back to the early centuries of the Church and Mary chose May 13, 1917 for her first apparition to three children in Fatima Portugal. During the month of May, the Catholic Church hands on the ancient tradition of crowning the Blessed Virgin Mary during this month both at church and in homes. **Saint Petronille will conduct a May Crowning after the morning Mass on May 13th at 9:00 am.** Although this will be live-streamed, you are welcome to login and pray with your family whenever you wish. We would also like to invite everyone to build a Marian Altar in your homes and do a May Crowning ceremony at home with your family. **I have attached a guide to building your Mary Altar and the Military Archdiocese provides a nice little ritual for Crowning Mary in your home:**

<https://www.archmil.org/JohnPaullIICenter/LayFormation/AdultFormation/CrowningMary.pdf>

First Holy Communion and Confirmation

Saint Petronille had to postpone our First Holy Communion and Confirmation ceremony. We have been working diligently to work out a solution and alternate date given the uncertain future we share. I will be sending a letter to parents of First Communicants next week with details of our solution. Please watch for it. Regarding Confirmation, we are waiting to receive some direction from the Diocese. Please remember all of our patient Confirmands and First Communicants in your prayers.

Parish Church

Our parish church remains open from 9 am to 4 pm Monday through Saturday with the exception of Mass times and observing the posted restrictions. Sunday the Church will be open from 11 am until 4 pm. We hope to receive guidelines from the Diocese regarding the celebration of Mass in the near future and we will be sending information regarding the safe reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation next week.

ESSE is participating in Giving DuPage Days Fundraiser

from April 14th – May 14th! This is an on-line fundraiser event to support local nonprofit organizations in DuPage county. To support ESSE, go to www.givingdupageday.org enter ESSE in the Find an Organization and choose profile to donate. Any amount is helpful and appreciated!! Call with any questions, 630-260-3773.

May Almighty God bless you and keep you.

Prayers.

In Christ,

Fr. Milota