

Most Holy Trinity Parish

mhtstl.org | FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT | MARCH 29, 2020

**Whoever does not have the spirit of Christ, does not belong to him...
If Christ is in you, the Spirit is alive because of goodness and integrity.**

– Romans 8:9,10

This week we have experienced the church at home, the domestic church, often the place where a child first learns about God. We have prayed within our homes with the dynamic living faith of the early church, the first Christians.

This week of uncertainty in our lives invites us to grow in loving God in ways we have never imagined. In reflection together we return to what matters most.

In today's gospel, Mary and Martha feel tragic disappointment at the death of their brother, Lazarus. Convinced of Jesus' love for them and with deep trust they beg Jesus to come to be with them. Upon arriving, Jesus' presence transforms their lives. Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead and deepens the faith of all present.

St. Paul says, when we experience life as over-demanding, the intense inner power, which is the Spirit, fills us with patient endurance, goodness and kindness. With faith and a strong spirit, we face every new decision and moment of life with grace and courage. Tensions and struggles may seem to break our endurance, but we, like Mary and Martha, are filled with abundant life and peace.

Hope is restored for our nation and the world by the belief that the spirit of Jesus dwells within us, individually, and within all of us. We are alive and transformed.

We affirm that the God who formed this complicated and diversified world also lovingly forms us. We enter this Sabbath with confidence that we have a home within God's unfolding grace.

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Reflection: Sandra Weinke, SSND; Design: Joyelle Proot, SSND

Prayer: *Loving Christ, you live in us. We long to be Your life, life abundant, in whatever place we are, now, in this day. With your grace we are alive in our fidelity to You, our family, our community. Amen.*

CONTINUED PRAYER: Helen Barbar, Vickie and Ed Deason, Mary Green, Mary Lee Howard, Michael Lemond, Ethel Long, Joetta Lukowski, Mary Meyer, Diana Schmidt, John Towles, and the needs of the Tracy and Usanga families

MISSION:

We are a people graced by God, who come together as a community of faith, supporting each other as we live and celebrate the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Parish Mass Schedule: 4 PM Saturday Mass/Eucharistic Prayer Service in Rectory Chapel
9:30 AM Sunday in Church | 9:15 AM Wednesday School Mass in Church (during school year)