



# Our Lady Queen of Peace

400 Maywood Avenue, Maywood, New Jersey 07607

MAY  
3  
2020



The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

PSALM 23:1

FOURTH  
SUNDAY OF  
**Easter**

SVIS + EGO · SVM PASTOR · BONVS + ET · C

**OLQP Livestream Schedule**  
 Watch on [www.facebook.com/olqpch](http://www.facebook.com/olqpch)  
 (Can be viewed by everyone / public)  
 Church & Parish Center Closed

<b>S</b>	<b>5/3</b>	<b>10:00a</b>	<b>SUNDAY MASS STREAMED</b> <b>Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> Parish Wide Recitation of the Rosary
M	5/4	7:00p	Parish Wide Recitation of the Rosary
T	5/5	7:00p	Parish Wide Recitation of the Rosary
W	5/6	7:00p	Parish Wide Recitation of the Rosary
T	5/7	7:00p	Parish Wide Recitation of the Rosary
F	5/8	7:00p	Parish Wide Recitation of the Rosary
S	5/9	7:00p	Parish Wide Recitation of the Rosary
<b>S</b>	<b>5/10</b>	<b>10:00a</b>	<b>SUNDAY MASS STREAMED</b> Parish Wide Recitation of the Rosary

**UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

**ALL EVENTS ARE POSTPONED  
 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**FOR UPDATES ON WHETHER MASSES & MEETINGS  
 ARE SUSPENDED DUE TO VIRUS & OTHER ISSUES, VISIT:  
 WWW.OLQP.ORG OR OUR FACEBOOK PAGE**

**2019 Contributions**

If you would like a statement of your contributions for 2019 for tax purposes, please call Katherine at (201) 845-9566 x113 or email [business@olqp.org](mailto:business@olqp.org). Kindly indicate if you'd prefer to have your statement mailed or emailed.

**Fourth Sunday of Easter  
 May 3, 2020**

The shepherd leads the sheep out into pastures of abundant life (John 10:1-10).

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Monday: Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4; Jn 10:11-18
- Tuesday: Acts 11:19-26; Ps 87:1b-7; Jn 10:22-30
- Wednesday: Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Jn 12:44-50
- Thursday: Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, 27; Jn 13:16-20
- Friday: Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab; Jn 14:1-6
- Saturday: Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 14:7-14
- Sunday: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; 1 Pt 2:4-9; Jn 14:1-12

View online: [www.usccb.org/bible](http://www.usccb.org/bible)

**PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS  
 & LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS**

**Public celebration of both Sunday *and* daily Masses is suspended until further notice.**

**UPDATE**

**As of March 25 ALL Churches must be closed and locked until further notice.**

**For further information go to**

**[https://www.rcan.org/  
 coronavirus-update-archdiocese-newark](https://www.rcan.org/coronavirus-update-archdiocese-newark)**

**Further information will follow. God Bless.**

**The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is broadcasted on several television channels.**

**OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE**



**SERVED BY**

- Rev. Antonio L. Ricarte, Administrator
- Rev. Rafal T. Smola, Parochial Vicar
- Rev. Jonathan Yabiliyok, In Residence
- Rev. Msgr. Peter J. Zaccardo, Pastor Emeritus
- Rev. Michael German, Weekend Assistant
- Rev. Don Hummel, Weekend Assistant
- Deacon Joseph L. Mantineo
- Deacon Anthony A. Balestrieri, Deacon Emeritus
- Angela Connelly, Director of Religious Education
- Giovanni Longo, Director of Music
- James McCarthy, Principal - St. Peter Academy
- Dorothy Feula, Lay Trustee

**FOLLOW  
 US ON:**



Parish Center: 201-845-9566 / Fax: 201-845-3742 / [parish@olqp.org](mailto:parish@olqp.org) / [www.olqp.org](http://www.olqp.org)  
 Religious Education: 201-845-9545 / [dre@olqp.org](mailto:dre@olqp.org)

**Support and Assist our Parish  
During these Difficult Times**

***Please donate to our gofundme page.***

**[https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/  
our-lady-queen-of-peace-maywood-nj](https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/our-lady-queen-of-peace-maywood-nj)**

For those of you who would like to continue to give through envelopes or cash during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, you can either mail your donation to the Parish Center (400 Maywood Ave., Maywood, NJ 07607) or drop it off at the white mailbox that is to the right of the side door of the Parish Center. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**PARISH GIVING**

*We are now offering online giving!  
Our Lady Queen of Peace*

*Individuals and families are busier  
and more active than ever.*

*vacation | inclement weather | sickness*

Please consider participating in our on-line giving program, Parish Giving, so that we can count you among our faithful stewards of the Parish.

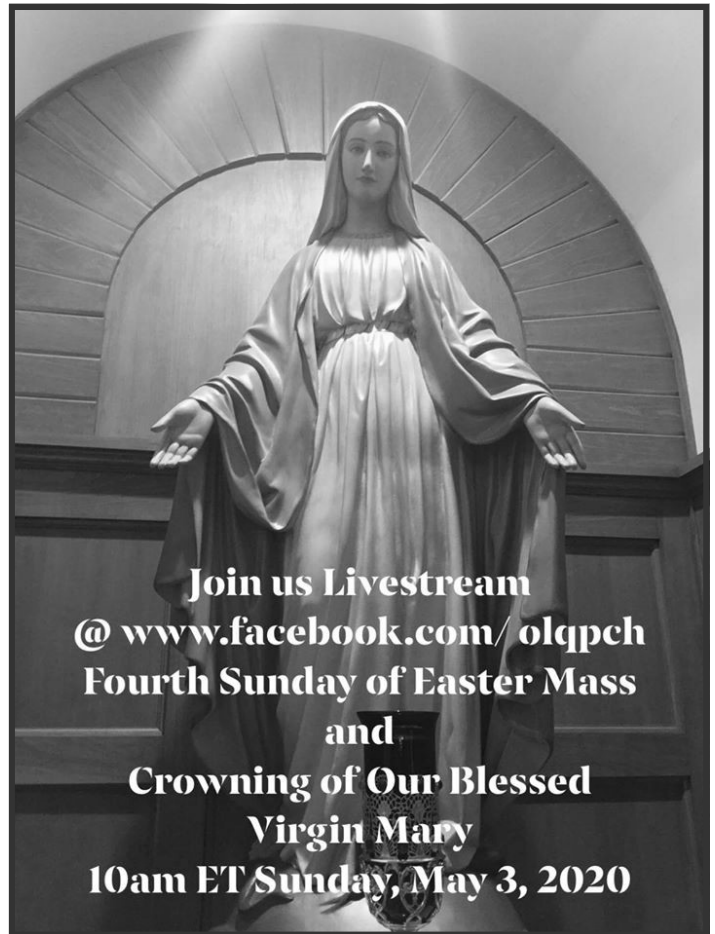
By automating your contributions to the Parish, you will strengthen our fiscal outlook and ensure a bright future for our Parish family.

To enroll in the free program only takes a few minutes. Please visit <https://olqp-maywood.org>, and click on the Parish Giving logo.



simple. secure. convenient.

1707 Fourth Street • Trenton, NJ 08638  
1.866.307.7140 • [www.ParishGiving.org](http://www.ParishGiving.org) •  
[info@ParishGiving.org](mailto:info@ParishGiving.org)



**Our Parish Wide recitation  
of the Holy Rosary at 7PM**

with the clergy  
will be livestreamed daily from

**<https://www.facebook.com/olqpch>**

Non FB users can view. Share with friends!

**STEWARDSHIP - Called to a Vocation:** *Stewardship a Way of Life; (Isaiah 43:1) "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name. "* Each of us is called to a vocation. Each of us has been called to stewardship. Once we really understand that, we fulfill God's plan for us. We realize that, if we do not share our gifts there is no one to replace that emptiness. It is up to us. Look around. Someone is calling for help.



## MASS SCHEDULE

Dates May 3rd until May 10th, 2020

### SUNDAY - FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

5/3 8:00 am Scuccimarri Family  
 10:00 am Deceased Members of  
 The Rubio Family  
 12:00 n Eva & Julio Montoto

### Monday

5/4 8:30 am People of the Parish

### Tuesday

5/5 8:30 am Carmela Zayas

### Wednesday

5/6 8:30 am Cesar Aguilar

### Thursday

5/7 8:30 am Angel Montilla, Jr.

### Friday

5/8 8:30 am Nanene Roselli

### Saturday

5/9 8:30 am Memorial Mass  
 5:00 pm John Hrablook

### SUNDAY - FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

5/10 8:00 am Mother's Day Novena  
 10:00 am Mother's Day Novena  
 12:00 n Mother's Day Novena

### MEMORIALS

#### St Joseph Candle

In Memory of Eugene Joseph Marren by Joan Cannon

*Note: Please remember the Altar Bread, Wine and Candles, as well as the St. Joseph candle and BVM candle can be memorialized by calling the Parish Center at 201-845-9566*

### MEMORIAL MASS - SATURDAY, MAY 9 - 8:30AM

Matilda & Mattea Bachia The Balderas Family	Karma Lynn Nucifore Helen Oast
Beninca / Scuccimarri Families Lucy & Angela Bucich	OLQP Rosary Altar Society Margie Parks
Cathy Cordasco Bridget Cullinane	Parodi / Zambelli Families Nanene & Anthony Roselli
MaryAnne & Marion Hedrick John Hrablook	Theresa Slomback John Tamborini
Saidy & Paulin Licaisi Mary & Joanne Lupetin	Norma Tamborini Anne B. Velky
Eugene Joseph Marren	The Velky Family

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

#### Rest in Peace

Frank Arcaroli Sr.  
The Victims of the Coronavirus pandemic

#### Sick Relatives & Friends

Cristina Aguilar Josefina Baldoza Dcn. Anthony Balestrieri Claire Borrello Theresa Bouchard Michael Bowers Ginny Cattaneo Carmen Cepeda Carmen Maria Colon Phil Dimitri Carole Ehrlich Yancey Garcia Eric Hagberg Valerie Havekost David Jengo Rosemarie Kaminski Anthony Klymenko Morgan Lamareux	Roberta Leibowitz Alice Liso Christopher Locascio Debbie Locascio Peter Locascio Diane Lohrer Dcn. Joseph Mantineo Jack McKinney Susie McMullen Sonia Medrano Andrew J. Mendez Christopher Moore Jim Moran Barbara Nelson Nowak Family O'Leary Family Sharon Osnowitz Harriet Pellicione	Vallie Pompilio Ann Marie Praino Francis Quinn Robert Raimo John Ruisch Melissa Ruisch Elsy Ruiz Fran Sampson Wilbert Santos Irene Schwarz Joanne Sontag Richard Spagnuolo Joseph Steiner Liam Justin N. Torres Connie Vitale Mary Walker Andrew Wey Joyce Wilson Sue Wright
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Those who are sick with Coronavirus

#### For Protection

Those in law enforcement & first responders, those who are employed at pharmacies, groceries, take-out restaurants, family members who have to go to work, and all health care providers & volunteers.

**Names will remain on our sick list for four weeks unless we are notified by the family.**

Anyone requesting a Prayer Shawl for a sick person is asked to call the Parish Center.

Please remember to place Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish in your Will. Those who generously did this in the past have helped us to stay out of a heavy debt and help to make our many ministries a reality.

### 2021 MASS BOOK

Check our website to see when we will open our 2021 Mass Book.

### Bereavement Support | dcnjoe@olqp.org

It is said that death ends our life on earth, but it does not end a relationship. There is great truth in this statement. However, the loss of a loved one can bring great pain. If you need bereavement counseling, please contact Deacon Joe at 201-845-9566, Ext. 119.

**ALL PARISH MINISTRY GATHERINGS/MEETINGS ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**Check out [www.olqp.org](http://www.olqp.org) and see all the ministries that are offered.**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Office #: 201-845-9545 / [dre@olqp.org](mailto:dre@olqp.org)

**“PARENTS ARE THE FIRST TEACHERS OF THEIR CHILDREN”**

**For all Religious Education inquiries please contact Angela Connelly at info above.**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION RE-REGISTRATION**

Because of the current health crisis and our need to curtail expenses, OLQP is providing ON-LINE RE-REGISTRATION for grades K-8 this year. **You have received an email from the religious education office this past week with all the information.** You can also go to the parish website. Follow the link to Religious Education to download the form. If you have a child new to our program or if there is any new information to be added to the current database you must include it on the form. All tuition fees have remained the same (1 child - \$125; 2 children - \$175; and 3 or more children - \$200; sacrament fees for First Eucharist or Confirmation are an additional \$100). Registration forms and tuition are due by June 30, 2020. Sacrament fees are due by November 15, 2020. Please make checks payable to Our Lady Queen of Peace Church. You may email the office if you any questions. [dre@olqp.org](mailto:dre@olqp.org)

**FAMILY LESSONS ON WEBSITE**

All family lessons for March and April have been posted on the OLQP website for you to complete. Although Religious Education classes officially ended your family should finish up the lessons if you have not done so. Take time every Sunday to gather as a family to go through the religion book and complete the chapters that were not finished. There is plenty of time until September to do this. This way when the children return in September they will remember what you have taught. Our catechists need your help as parents who are the first teachers of the faith.

**CATECHISTS**

Please email your responses if you intend to return or not return as a catechist for the fall term. Also the meeting scheduled for May 13th is cancelled.

**YOUTH MINISTRY CORNER**

(201) 845-9566 / [justine.garcia@olqp.org](mailto:justine.garcia@olqp.org)

The Youth Group usually meets on Sunday at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center Youth Room.

Any youth in grades 8-12 are invited to join us. If you have any questions, please email our Coordinator, Justine at email above.

**Join us on Zoom each Friday night at 7 pm. Please email us at [justine.garcia@olqp.org](mailto:justine.garcia@olqp.org) for meeting information or text us at 201-961-4782.**

**Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

Dear Jesus,  
I believe that you are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive your Body and Blood. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. Stay close to me, Jesus, so that I may be close to all our sisters and brothers, especially those who are most in need of your loving care.  
Amen.

**PRAYERS** - Please keep in your prayers all of our active military personnel here and overseas.

We especially pray for our own parishioners:

Joshua Ashley, Ryan O'Connell,  
John Velazquez



May the Lord protect them in their service.

**OLQP**



**RCIA**

If you are interested in being baptized or wish to receive the sacraments of Eucharist or Confirmation, our RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) program will prepare you for the reception of these sacraments.

If who have received the sacraments of initiation and wish to learn more about your faith, our RCIA program is also for you. The RCIA meetings are held in a friendly, relaxed, and informal setting every Tuesday at 7 pm in the Parish Center. For more information contact Dcn. Joe Mantineo at 201-845-9566 x119 or [dcnjoe@olqp.org](mailto:dcnjoe@olqp.org)



Any woman who is pregnant and in need can get help. She never has to feel that abortion is the only option and can find assistance at the following numbers:

**Crisis Pregnancy Helpline**    **Post Abortion Healing**

**1-888-4-OPTIONS**

**1-877-HOPE 4 ME**

**1-888-NO-ABORT**

**rachelsvineyard.org**

**Birthright - 1-800-550-4900 or 201-845-4646**

NJ law allows a mother who cannot keep a recently born baby to leave the baby at a hospital or a police station, no questions asked. For info call 877-839-2339.

**Respect Life Office at 973-497-4350 | rileyche@rcan.org**

getyourcare.org | babiesinthewombfeelpain.com



**HUMAN CONCERNS NEWS**

olqphumanconcerns@gmail.com

**SOUP KITCHEN MINISTRY**

Due to the Corona Virus Pandemic, Newark is in lockdown.

If interested in volunteering in the future, please contact Mary Flanigan at soupkitchen@olqp.org

**Catholic Charities Donation Bin Important Update**

Sentinel Management has just informed us that due to the Coronavirus and out of an abundance of caution, the Catholic Charities donation bins will be closed. The bins will be emptied and then wrapped in plastic. This is a temporary measure and we ask you to save all items for that time when we are operating again. We are so thankful for your ongoing generosity and concern. Catholic Charities continues to reach out to the most vulnerable in our society. We pray for the safety of all throughout the world and ask for God's strength and guidance as we confront this invisible enemy.

**A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN TIME OF PANDEMIC**



O Mary,

you always brighten our path as a sign of salvation and of hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother,

you know what we need,

and we are confident you will provide for us as at Cana in Galilee.

Intercede for us with your Son Jesus,

the Divine Physician,

for those who have fallen ill,

for those who are vulnerable,

and for those who have died.

Intercede also for those charged with protecting the health and safety of others and for those who are tending to the sick and seeking a cure.

Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,

to conform to the will of the Father

and to do as we are told by Jesus,

who took upon himself our

sufferings and carried our sorrows,

so as to lead us, through the Cross,

to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

*Under thy protection we seek refuge,  
O Holy Mother of God.*

*In our needs, despise not our petitions,  
but deliver us always from all dangers,  
O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.*

*Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

**Scams** - Please be wary that anyone who demands payment by cash/gift card by text/email is always a scammer. Be aware that the priests and staff of OLQP **would never** make a request such as this.

**EVERY THURSDAY – AUDITORIUM – 7:15PM – Doors open 4:45PM**



Three great ways in supporting our church. 

1. Donate and play (and you could win!)

2. Volunteer as bingo staff (easy way to help out)

3. Or you can do both (support to the fullest)

Email us at **OLQPbingo@gmail.com** for more info

**OVER A \$2000.00 IN REGULAR PAYOUTS + PROGRESSIVE**

**Music Ministry** | dirmusic@olqp.org

**Youth Choir** - Come join the Youth Choir!  
If you have any questions or want more info,  
please email Giovanni Longo at  
dirmusic@olqp.org

**FOLLOW US ON:**



Like/Follow this Facebook page.  
It's updated w/important parish info.

**504**  
**Likes!**  
**744**  
**Follows!**

**Our Lady Queen of Peace Church**



Instagram at OLQPCH\_Maywood **68 Followers**  
**7 Following**



YouTube at OLQPCH Maywood | **54 Videos**  
**Subscribers - 51**

- **SAVE THE DATE:** Bergen Catholic will be holding their summer "BC LEAD ON" Program for rising 7th and 8th graders from July 13-July 30 2020 from 8am-Noon. Registration begins May 1, 2020 and can be found on the Bergen Catholic website. [www.bergencatholic.org](http://www.bergencatholic.org)

- **LET BC COME TO YOU:** Bergen Catholic will share a virtual Open House on Wednesday May 20th. Registration can be found on the Bergen Catholic website. For more information please contact Matt Rosa '08, Director of Admissions at [mrosa@bergencatholic.org](mailto:mrosa@bergencatholic.org)

**Why should I register in the parish?** - All members of the parish should be formally registered as members of the parish. However, you **MUST** be formally registered if you wish to arrange a Baptism, a Confirmation, or a Wedding in the parish Church. You **MUST** also be formally registered if you wish to register in the Parish School or the Religious Education (CCD) Program. You **MUST** be a registered member of the parish for at least three months before you can obtain a Sponsor Certificate or schedule a Baptism or a Wedding.

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP:** New Parishioners are requested to register in the Parish as soon as possible. Please notify the Parish office ([parish@olqp.org](mailto:parish@olqp.org) or by mail) of any changes in address & phone number

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Town \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check

- I wish to receive a registration form
- I have a change of address
- I am moving out of the parish

**Please cut out and mail to OLQP Parish Center  
410 Maywood Ave., Maywood, NJ 07607**

**The status of OLQP parish events  
will be determined based on the  
Archdiocese's updates. Stay tuned.**



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at

**<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-1670034>**

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**Anniversary Masses**

Please note that due to the ongoing health crisis,  
we are unable to celebrate the Anniversary  
Masses at the Cathedral Basilica or the Mass for  
Bereaved Parents at this time.

Important Note: For inquiries regarding  
upcoming programs amid COVID-19, please  
contact us via [familylife@rcan.org](mailto:familylife@rcan.org)

**CATHOLIC ADVOCATE ONLINE**

<https://www.rcan.org/the-catholic-advocate>

**CATHOLIC RADIO - TV - ONLINE STREAMING**

Relevant Radio 1430 AM / [relevantradio.com](http://relevantradio.com)  
Optimum: EWTN 135 & CFN 137  
Fios: EWTN 285 & Catholic Faith Network 296  
[ewtn.com](http://ewtn.com) > Television > Watch Live

**OLQP BREAKING NEWS**



**We've started using a new tool to  
communicate with you; consequently,  
we'll be able to via email, communicate  
parish time-sensitive information to you.  
To Opt-In, email [notifications@olqp.org](mailto:notifications@olqp.org)  
or contact the Parish Center.**

## Five Reasons We Turn to Mary in Times of Crisis

By Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.

Archbishop of Newark

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Earlier this year when the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic became clear, and thousands—then millions—of people throughout the world were effected by physical, spiritual, economic and psychological hardships, including severe sickness and death, I began to implore the Blessed Virgin Mary, Health of the Sick, on a daily basis for her intercession and help. Throughout the ages, Christians have turned to Mary in times of war, pestilence and famine. In troubled times like these, she is a sure refuge, a source of comfort and hope.



My religious order, the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (Redemptorists) maintains a particular devotion to Mary under the title *Mater de Perpetuo Succursu* (Mother of Perpetual Help). As guardians of the 15th century Byzantine icon that bears this holy name, for more than 150 years my community has promoted devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Help as a means of helping people in all regions of the world draw closer to Mary, the Mother of God and our mother.

Pope Francis has frequently said that his favorite image for the Church is her motherhood. “The Church is feminine,” Pope Francis says. “She is a mother.” Of course, Mary is the model, the inspiration for the Church’s motherhood and for all that is holy, compassionate and loving in the Church’s life and ministry. When Mary’s influence is missing or weak, the Church no longer acts as a loving mother.

That’s why we should turn to Mary in both good times and troubled times. As Mother of Perpetual Help, she is always ready to assist us, always there for us, constantly prepared to seek her Son’s guidance and support for all her children. Especially in times of grave danger, such as the current pandemic, Mary offers hope, healing and comfort to all who are in need of her maternal care.

As I reflect on our current crisis, and the serious challenges it presents to individuals, families, communities and nations in all regions of the world, I see five major reasons (among many more) why we should turn to Mary our mother for her intercession and help.

Here are my five reasons.

**1. People are sick and dying.** Throughout the Church's history, Christians have sought Mary's intercession in times of serious illness including pestilence and plagues. As a loving mother, Mary always responds with comfort and the healing grace of her Son.

*Most Holy Mother, Health of the Sick, please stay close to all who are suffering from the effects of this deadly virus. Comfort those who mourn the loss of loved ones. Encourage caregivers, first responders and all who provide essential services often at great risk to themselves.*

**2. People are frightened, lonely and depressed.** Mary's loving presence offers courage and hope during frightening times, especially when we are isolated from family and friends. She reassures us and reminds us that we are never alone, never without the consolation and hope won for us by her Son's suffering, death and resurrection to new life.

*Mother of Holy Hope, inspire us by your perseverance and courage. Help us see that we are not going through this time of trial alone. Show us the way to Jesus, and help us to accept your loving presence as a sure sign that even in this time of social distancing, your Son holds us in his loving embrace and says to each one of us: "Be not afraid!"*

**3. People are out of work or afraid they will lose their jobs.** Mary is alternately invoked as Our Lady of Abundance and as Mother of the Poor. She stands with us when the economy is growing and when there is widespread poverty and unemployment. She reminds us to be good stewards of all God's gifts and to share generously with others, especially the poor.

*Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of all the Americas, you know the riches and the poverty of the lands we share with all our sisters and brothers here. Teach us to be grateful and generous stewards. Intercede for all who are poor. Reassure all who are frightened. Help us to help each other so that no one has to go without his or her share of God's abundance.*

**4. People are longing for the sacraments, especially the Eucharist.** Mary shows us the way to her Son. She is a sacrament of God's presence in the world, the Gateway to Grace and a model for the Church's prayer and worship. Deprived of access to the sacraments, and to liturgy *cum populo* (with our sisters and brothers), we understandably turn to Mary in the Rosary and other devotional prayers to help fill the spiritual gaps that exist in our lives.

*Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for us. Teach us to seek and find your Son, Jesus, in the prayer and worship of the Church, in the sacraments and in intercessory prayers to you and all the saints. Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, help us to be patient and understanding until the day we can safely reopen our churches and once again make the sacraments available to all.*

**5. People need wise, prudent and compassionate leadership—now more than ever.** Mary is the Mother of the Good Shepherd. His teaching and example powerfully illustrate the meaning and vital importance of servant leadership. We implore the Mother of our Lord to help all our leaders in society and in the Church set aside their personal and political agendas so that they can place the needs of others first and foremost.

*Mother of Justice and of Mercy, pray for all who are leaders. Inspire us by your obedience to God's will and your readiness to sacrifice your own needs and desires for the good of all. Open our minds and hearts to the selfless witness given to us by your Son so that we can lead our people with humility, wisdom and courage.*

**In conclusion,** I would like to once again make my own Pope Francis's prayer to Our Lady, Health of the Sick, which uses the words of an ancient prayer, *Sub tuum praesidium*, actually the oldest hymn to Mary, the Mother of God, to implore her protection during the coronavirus epidemic:

*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 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. Amen.*

Holy Mary, we entrust to your maternal care the health and safety of all our brothers and sisters here in the Archdiocese of Newark and throughout the world. Help us to trust in the healing power of your Son and to stay close to one another spiritually even as we are required to maintain a safe distance physically.

Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.  
Archbishop of Newark