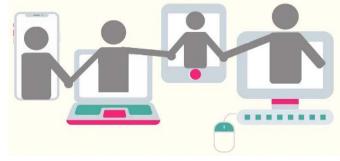
PIM UPDATE

APRIL 3, 2020

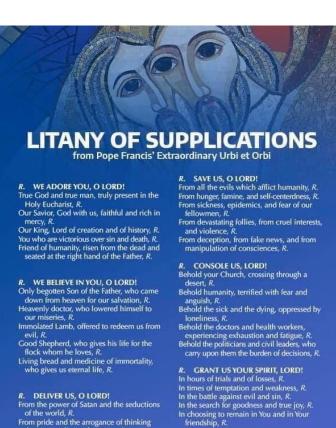


REDEMPTORIST CONFERENCE OF NORTH AMERICA PARTNERSHIP IN MISSION





Have you noticed how important the arts have become in recent days and weeks? On a regular basis, we are witnessing people in Italy and



Spain singing from their balconies at night, orchestras and opera singers gathering through virtual means to brighten our lives with the classics, Broadway artists and popular singers serenading us from their homes, composers streaming their musicals and plays online for free, famous rock guitarists offering free tutorials and posting challenges to the puclic, and ordinary people posting songs- serious and funny, some of their own creation, some "covers." Some people have been posting classic art works online, and many museums and historic sites have made available virtual tours for free.

We witness the same creative, loving and generous outreach in our Redemptorist Family in North America and beyond. Local Redemptorist parishes and shrines are live-streaming Masses. talks and spiritual development sessions. Entire V/Provinces have brought together the gifts, talents and abilities of Redemptorists to offer retreats, thoughts for the day and formation sessions for partners in mission.

In the midst of a time that is anything other than "ordinary," the work of feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, counselling the doubtful, comforting the sorrowing and burying the dead continues. Though we are physically distanced, we are still missionaries, Redemptorist missionaries, called to be and proclaim the good news of plentiful redemption through the means available to us.

We enter Holy Week, conscious that our personal and communal walk with Jesus may be the most profound walk that we will ever make. Now, more than ever, we experience ourselves as one missionary body, journeying together, conscious that the Redeemer accompanies us on the way.

R. OPEN US TO HOPE, LORD!

When sin oppresses us, R. When hatred closes our hearts, R.

When sorrow visits us, R. When indifference weighs in on us, R. When death annihilates us, R.

From pride and the arrogance of thinking

From hardness of heart and the incapacity to

that we can live without you, R. From the deceit of fear and anguish, R. From unbelief and despair, R.





Don't let Easter
Sunday suddenly
come upon you.
During this special
week, make some
of Christ's Passion
Journey with him in
your own life...

- Some of our worst enemies are our own kin. Reach out to your difficult family members and do the Stations of the Cross with them in your heart. Here's a short, but moving online Stations to do at home: http://thecatholic spirit.com/faith/2lst-century-stations-of-the-cross/
- Jesus loves everyone and he befriends those who are condemned by others
 as sinners and outcasts. Remember the people you dislike or hate. Text, call
 or visit them and reconcile with them this Holy Week...if it's hard, it's worth
 doing.
- Jesus washed the feet of his disciples. You can also "wash the feet" of others by doing acts of humble and loving service. Who needs your help?
- Physical Prayer Walk instead of driving somewhere at least once this week and pray the sorrowful mysteries as you go.
- On Maundy Thursday, prepare a simple meal for your family and begin the meal with a shared prayer (even if they look at you funny) and a short remembrance of the Last Supper.
- On Good Friday, spend a quiet time before a crucifix. Reflect on the important choices you have made in the past. Get to know yourself better and ask: what changes do I need to make in order to foster a more intimate relationship with Christ?
- On Black Saturday, make (rather than buy) Easter presents for those who are close to your heart. Make something that will express to them that they are important and precious to you.

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