

## St. Vincent de Paul Parish 6001 NORTH UNIVERSITY STREET PEORIA, ILLINOIS 61614

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May 3, 2020

Dear Faithful Parishioners of St. Vincent de Paul,

As we begin the month of May, we honor our Blessed Mother. May crowning is a tradition in our Church in which we honor our Blessed Mother with a crown of flowers. This Sunday we are crowning the outside statue of our Lady. Maggie Moore, one of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders, has been chosen as one that most exemplifies the qualities of Mary and has the honor of crowning her this year. Following the May Crowing we will place some vases in front of our statue so that people can come by and say a prayer and bring flowers to Our Blessed Mother. This is a beautiful way we can celebrate the month of Our Lady.

In this month, we thank God for the gift of our mothers. We are blessed to know that while Jesus was on the cross He gave His own mother to St. John and to us. Our Blessed Mother will always listen to us and lead us to her Beloved Son. We remember our mothers living or deceased, of their great love, humbleness and great surrender to their families by their constant acts of kindness throughout their life. A mother's heart is precious because she unites it to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This allows her heart to expand with unconditional love. Each day should be Mother's Day because a mother constantly lays down her life for her family. Thank you Jesus for our mother and yours! Father Taylor and I wish mothers of every kind, those longing to be mothers, and those who bear spiritual motherhood a very Happy Mother's Day. You will be in our prayers in a special way that day.

Once again, I encourage you to grow in your spiritual life. Formed.org a parish resource offered to you has many educational and spiritual reflection for you. Make time to look through all the great material and choose something that will inspire you during this time. I hope you are enjoying your Pastor's Challenge by watching *The Eucharist in the Scripture* by Scott Hahn at stpaulcenter.com. It is truly inspirational.

In my Vocare letter I mentioned that in April we would be working on the remodeling our restrooms in the church. We are able to complete this whole project because of an anonymous donor from our parish. This project began right after Easter. I am looking forward to having them completed in the near future.

It has been a joy for Fr. Taylor and I to receive so my prayers and compliments by emails, mail, and Facebook. We have also received homemade cards and letters from the children from the parish. These thoughts, prayers, and kind gestures truly touches our hearts. You are always in my prayers.

In Christ, Fr. Steve