



Dear Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of Lourdes,

This past Sunday (April 19) – also Divine Mercy Sunday – is one in which we also meditate explicitly on Jesus' appearance at a moment of great uncertainty. I'd like to touch on this in two ways: (1) Secrecy of Doubt; (2) Similarity of Desire

SECRECY A person going to confession often tells God – through the priest – what he or she has told no one else. This takes courage and trust, but it also healing and healthy and reconciling, and healthy and reconciling to be close to God in this way. At first Thomas is alone in his doubt. He is courageous to bring his doubts into the light. Jesus' appearance says something about the secrecy of doubt.

SIMILARITY We all have a similarity of desire. That is, we all have the desire for the friendship of love of both God and neighbor. Right now, being unable to come to church and attend Mass, we feel cut off from both.

And, the disciples, locked in the Upper Room, also had this desire. I suggest it is notable that Jesus appears to them while they are cut off, while they are sheltering in place, and practicing social distancing. Jesus appears to them because they all have – we all have the same desire.

Jesus appears to us – in small ways – in out-of-the-way places, in small crowds.

We might wish at times that God would appear with the strength of professional-sports-halftime-show ... or something to make others believe.

John Henry Newman, writing about "Witnesses to the Resurrection" points out such large-scale appearances would have produced more doubt than faith.

People would have said they could not see him, or hear him. Faith is based on a personal relationship, one-on-one.

Jesus wishes to visit you also, please make time for Him where you are.

We live now in a time of great doubt, uncertainty, due to COVID-19 and the necessary precautions and alerts.

We are similar to the disciples who are locked behind doors in fear and anxiety, afraid to come out in public.

The disciples are sheltering in place in the Upper Room and if they had had masks, they would have been using them for hiding rather than hygiene.

For you and me, is it better to believe or to doubt in such circumstances?

Doubt or doubting has become fashionable. We often tune into TV or internet news channels not because we want the truth but we want to know what the doubts are. What are doubters saying? People get paid big bucks to tell you their doubts. Check your local listings.

What is the cause of doubt? Essentially, the cause of doubt, the reason for doubt is a lack of evidence. Is it better to believe or to doubt? I suggest it is better to believe, but it is certainly very enticing and entertaining to doubt. We may even entertain secret doubts about those around us, simply because we may be more comfortable there. There is a familiar consolation in skepticism and doubt.

Yet, are not our real and true loving relationships based on something other than the elimination of all doubt? Are they not based on something other than empirical DNA evidence?

Perhaps, you remember the movie – Meet the Parents – in which a young man is introduced to his future father-in-law played by Robert DeNiro. DeNiro plays the suspicious father who even gives his future son-in-law a lie detector test. Of course, this is an extreme ..but it just shows that love is something revealed in a relationship over time, not proven in an experiment once and for all.

For example, if I trust what you say – or you trust what I say – it's not just based on a proposition but a person. This is the lesson to Thomas, to all the apostles, to all of us, behind locked doors, to recall not only that Jesus has appeared but that he will talk with us about the secrecy of our doubts, loves us because we all have similar desires for his friendship. And, Jesus demonstrated "There is no greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (John 15:13)

"Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed." (John 20: 29)

I pray that you and yours remain safe and healthy.

In Christ's Peace,
Father Jim Ferry

GIVING TO LOURDES

If you are able, the Lourdes church family also needs your support so that we can sustain our ministry to you even during this time without Mass and maintain our infrastructure. It is difficult, I know, to pray and stay connected when we cannot come to church and to Mass. I just remind you that we are trying to remain a vital presence for you here, with online information and with preparation for re-opening. Your gift for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday is a great participation in our mission. If you have any questions, please call Father Jim Ferry at 973.325.0110.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH - APRIL 26, 2020



A PRIVATE MASS will be offered for the following Mass Intentions this week.

Mass will not be offered in church.



SATURDAY 25 APRIL

8:30 am Cecilia Fernandes
5:30 pm John Vito Selpo

SUNDAY 26 APRIL

7:30 am People of the Parish
9:30 am John Gaeta
11:30 am Thomas S. Gawenus, Jr.

MONDAY 27 APRIL

8:30 am Deacon Ernest Abad (5th Ann.)

TUESDAY 28 APRIL

8:30 am Matilda O'Boyle

WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL

8:30 pm Anthony Strollo (5th Ann.)

THURSDAY 30 APRIL

8:30 am Louis Mazza

FRIDAY 1 MAY

8:30 am Ralph Torcello

SATURDAY 2 MAY

8:30 am Gabrielle & Arnold Constant (In Thanksgiving)
5:30 pm Barbara Ziinno

SUNDAY 3 MAY

7:30 am People of the Parish
9:30 am Catherine Catalano & Louise Chiaramonte
11:30 am Jaroslav & Rose Konvalinka



SUNDAY 26 APRIL

7:00 am KOC Pancake Breakfast (CANCELED)

8:30 am Call-in Live for Morning Prayer with Fr. Jim Ferry. (See Page 4 for details)

10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal (CANCELED)
10:30 am Teaching Mass (CANCELED)

MONDAY 27 APRIL

5:30-7:30 pm Family Catechesis Grade 6 Only (CANCELED)

THURSDAY 30 APRIL

10:00 am Deadline for News & Announcements for May 10th bulletin email: lourdesbulletin@aol.com.

1:00 pm Call-in Live to Pray the Rosary with Fr. Jim Ferry. (See Page 4 for details)

6:00 pm Choir Practice (CANCELED)

FRIDAY 1 MAY

5:30-9:30 pm Eucharistic Adoration—Church (CANCELED)

SATURDAY 2 MAY

4:30 pm Call-in Live for Evening Prayer with Fr. Jim Ferry. (See Page 4 for details)

SUNDAY 3 MAY

8:30 am Call-in Live for Morning Prayer with Fr. Jim Ferry. (See Page 4 for details)

9:00 am Recitation of Rosary—(CANCELED)

9:00 am KOC Bus Trip to Wind Creek (CANCELED)
10:30 am Children's Choir Rehearsal (CANCELED)
11:30 am May Crowning Grades 1-6 (CANCELED)



They knew Him in the breaking of the bread.



PRAYERS Needed For...

**Daphne Brown
Catherine Gascoyne
Nicholas Larusso
Mary McGuines
Matthew McHugh
Dolores Otero**

**Mark Quarno
Gregory Roxborough
Mary Lou Ruppel
Pat Schoeler
Katerina Zachos**



If you wish to have a friend or loved one prayed for, please call the rectory at 973.325.0110.

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE MAY 2-MAY 3, 2020

Mass	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
5:30 pm	Annlynn Fernandes	Marge Christiano Frank Refinski	Francesca Appolon David Broking Jordan Broking
7:30 am	Mary Cassels	Howard Casey St. James Soon	Rosalinda Saniel Lisa Westheimer
9:30 am Adult Choir	Carol Ford	Espie Cain (C) Joseph Petrillo Ann Pflug	Seamus Murphy Volunteer
11:30 am Children's Choir	Wendy Sheyka	(C) Carmelita Dizon Michelle Gizzi Wendy Sheyka	Amir Stewart Ikeh Ikeh-Uzor Mezu Ikeh-Uzor



Praying not canceled

Dear Family and Friends of Lourdes:

I miss you and know that we all miss seeing each other at church on Sundays. To keep a connection with both our Lord and each other, as your pastor, I invite you to join us—via telephone—every Saturday at 4:30 pm or every Sunday at 8:30 am for biblical readings, a reflection (homily) and our own prayers for God's help. The prayer lasts for about 30 minutes.

And, we'll continue every Saturday/Sunday while Our Lady of Lourdes church is closed. There will be prayers in both English + Spanish. All are welcome. To participate, you use your phone and dial 888.585.9008. When asked for "conference room number" enter 590-716-373.

Please check LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG for more information. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Rezar no se cancela

Te extraño y se que todos extrañamos vernos dominicalmente. Para mantener conexiones espirituales—con nuestro Señor y entre nosotros—como su pastor, los invito a unirse a nosotros, por teléfono, el sábado a las 4:30 pm o el domingo a las 8:30 am para lecturas bíblicas, una reflexión (homilía) nuestras propias oraciones por la ayuda de Dios. La oración dura unos 30 minutos.

Y vamos a seguir cada sábado/domingo mientras Our Lady of Lourdes Church esta cerrada. Habrán lecturas y oraciones en ingles + español. Todos son bienvenidos. Para unirse, marque 888.585.9008. Cuando se le solicite "conference room number", marque 590-716-373.

Consulte LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG para obtener mas información sobre como orar con nosotros. No lo dudes ponerse en contacto conmigo si tiene alguna pregunta.

Call-in Live To Pray the Rosary with Fr. Jim Ferry

A Rosary-Call-In Conference Call will be held on:

Thursdays: April and May

at 1:00 pm.

How to call in: dial...888.585.9008

When asked for conference room number

enter... 590-716-373

followed by the # (pound sign)

Everyone is invited to call in.

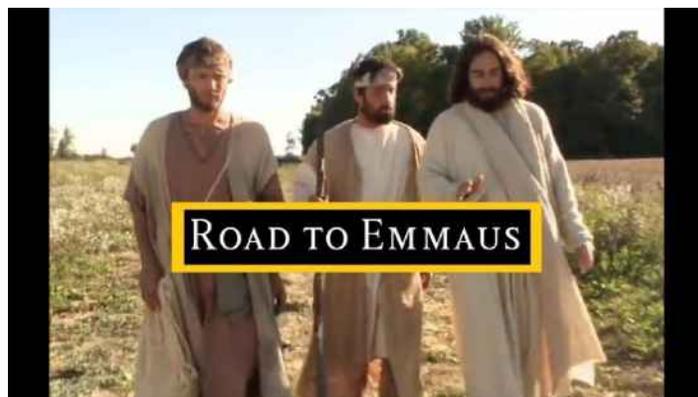
If you have any questions,
please call Fr. Jim at 973.325.0110.

How can we remain spiritually close at the same time that we practice social distancing?

As you go about your daily business—working remotely, studying at home, doing spring cleaning, caring for children or family members, preparing dinner, doing the laundry, and more—look for opportunities to offer up your activities to God in gratitude for his closeness to you.

Be patient with yourself and those you love. This is a strange and difficult time for all of us. Frustration and anger are understandable reactions. We need to help each other remain calm and trust in the healing power of Jesus who is close to us—now and always.

Excerpt: A Message from Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin, Archbishop of Newark, dated April 1, 2020



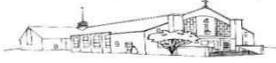
The story of the disciples on the Emmaus Road is important for many reasons. It provides an *emphasis* on the Old Testament prophecies related to Jesus, *evidence* regarding an additional appearance of Jesus, and a connection regarding the many *eyewitnesses* of the resurrected Jesus. [Luke 24](#) is often seen as a model of the journey that Jesus makes with many of us today, as He opens our eyes, points us to the Word, and reveals Himself along life's walk as the resurrected Savior and Lord.

Excerpt: <https://www.gotquestions.org/road-to-Emmaus.html>

How to Report Abuse



The Archdiocese takes very seriously any and all allegations of sexual misconduct by members of the clergy, Religious and lay staff of the Archdiocese. We encourage anyone with knowledge of an act of sexual misconduct to inform us immediately so that we may take appropriate action to protect others and provide support to victims of sexual abuse. Individuals who wish to report an allegation of sexual misconduct may do so by calling the Archdiocesan Office of Child and Youth Protection at 973.497.4012.

 (v.25)	Coronavirus-COVID-19 Update for Our Lady of Lourdes Church One Eagle Rock Avenue West Orange, NJ 07052 TEL. 973.325.0110
Date: April 21, 2020 From: Father Jim Ferry, Pastor ferryjam2@aol.com	

“Section 1” Connect to us spiritually, via these telephone call-in ► activities:

Telephone number: 888.585.9008 **When asked for “room number”** 590-716-373

Sect. 1-a ► Call-in Prayer “Saturday” + “Sunday” (while church is closed)

4:30 pm, Saturday, “Afternoon prayer” Est. 30 minutes

8:30 am, Sunday, “Morning prayer” Est. 30 minutes

Sect. 1-a ► “Telephone Town Hall” meeting to pray + share our needs

6:30 pm Monday six thirty in evening – ALL WELCOME, EVERY MONDAY

Sect. 1-b ► Call-in pray Rosary + Divine Mercy (All welcome, w/ Father Jim Ferry)

“Thursdays” @ 1:00 pm (April 23, 30) + (May 7, 14, 21, 28) Est. 45 minutes

Section 2. Online Prayer / Mass / Rosary via “TV” or “internet”

TV channels 	EWTN, FIOS Ch. 285 / Optimum “135” / Comcast “1668” / Direct TV “370” C.F.N. Catholic Faith Network, FIOS Ch. 296 / Optimum “137”
Internet online 	LOURDESWESTORANGE.ORG, “Find us on Facebook” REDHAWKCATHOLIC.COM (Father Jim Chern @ Montclair State Univ.) RCAN.ORG, EWTN.COM, RELEVANTRADIO.COM

Section 3. How to help charitably FOOD PANTRY GIFTS/Needed Items O.L.

Lourdes accepts donations which will be given to Holy Trinity Episcopal (“Christine’s Kitchen”) • **Ramen noodles** • **Peanut Butter** • **Spaghetti Sauce** • **48 ounce juice bottles** • **Progresso Chicken Soup** • **Instant Oatmeal** • **Snacks in individual bags as “snack packs”:** **cookies, crackers, potato chips, pretzels** • **Cleaning supplies** • “Gift Cards” also accepted. We suggest \$25 or \$50 Shop Rite Gift Cards, but accept any amount! Please call # above for drop-off.