



## SPIRITUAL FOOD FOR LENT

The first Corona I encountered was a prayer, not a beer.

The statue of Mary looked wrong. It wasn't her face or features. It wasn't her gown or pose. It was the Rosary she held in her hands. It had seven decades not five and looking more carefully I realized each decade had seven beads, not ten. How could such a beautiful statue have such an obvious mistake? Was it made by pagans who didn't know? And even if that were the case, how did it end up in our dormitory in the seminary (the place where men study to become priests)? Was it a donation they felt they couldn't refuse?

In 1975 this was my introduction to The Corona often called a chaplet in English. (The word "corona" means crown.) The Corona is based on the Seven Sorrows of Mary. It is similar to The Franciscan Corona which developed later using the Seven Joys of Mary... with sets of ten beads rather than seven.

The Corona begins with the Act of Contrition. Then there are three beads for the tears of Mary: one for her tears for me, one for those who know her son and one for those who do not yet know her son. Then each group of seven is begun with an Our Father, as in the regular Rosary. Also like the Rosary, the groups of seven Hail Mary's are an occasion for meditation on "Mysteries" listed below:

**The First Sorrow:** The Prophecy of Simeon (Luke 2:25-35) When Mary and Joseph present the infant Jesus in the temple, Simeon predicts that a "sword" (of sorrow) will pierce Mary's soul.

**The Second Sorrow:** The flight into Egypt (Matt. 2:13-15) When King Herod orders the death of all male children age two or younger, Mary and Joseph flee to Egypt with the infant Jesus.

**The Third Sorrow:** The Child Jesus Lost in the Temple (Lk. 2: 41-50) Mary and Joseph search for the child Jesus for three days, finding Him at last in the temple.

**The Fourth Sorrow:** Mary meets Jesus carrying the cross (Lk. 23: 27-29) As Jesus makes His way to Calvary, condemned to crucifixion, He meets His mother, Mary.

**The Fifth Sorrow:** Mary at the foot of the cross (Jn. 19: 25-30) Mary stands near her dying Son. His last words, "Behold your mother," give us Mary as our mother.

**The Sixth Sorrow:** Mary receives the body of Jesus (Ps. 130) Jesus is taken down from the cross and His body is placed in Mary's arms.

**The Seventh Sorrow:** The burial of Jesus (Lk. 23: 50-56) The body of Jesus is laid in the tomb. "Good Friday" ends.

PALM SUNDAY is next weekend on April 5th. Blessed Palms will be available (until we run out) in the parking lot beginning at 8am until 1pm.

DAILY ADORATION "Drive-In " Adoration is available in our parking lot from 8am until 3:15pm. Turn your car into a place of prayer while visiting our Lord and Savior's Real Presence.

HOLY THURSDAY "Drive-In " Adoration is available in our parking lot from 8am until Midnight.

GOOD FRIDAY and HOLY SATURDAY—  
NO ADORATION but we are working on something.

Our school and Youth Group have continued lessons as they "Zoom" their education. Our teachers and school families are in good health and working together to ensure our children get the great Christian Education they deserve. We are looking into Zooming our other Religious Education classes, as well.

I am presiding at our St. Jerome School's Mass this Friday morning. If all goes well we will have a link to the mass on our website by 10am.

I miss praying with you. I miss eating coffee and donuts with you. I miss your smiles and friendship. I even miss those who drive me nuts. (Absence does make the heart grow fonder.) I am praying for you each day at mass and long for the day we can be together again. In too many words I am trying to say, "I love you."

Your brother in Christ,  
Fr. Bill

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles is teaming up with the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Knights of Columbus to provide support for those struggling during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The new ministry, **Hearts to Serve**, launches Tuesday, March 24. Anyone can call the hotline 855-423-6780, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, and volunteers will connect callers with local resources for food and household necessities. Drivers are available to deliver supplies to homes and parish-based food pantries. Hearts to Serve will also work to help those who have lost their jobs or find themselves unable to pay for basic needs.

For anyone struggling with loneliness under LA's "safer in place" directive, Hearts to Serve will also provide critical human contact, including prayer, conversation, and resources for support.

Remember all those who work in healthcare, especially our parishioners:

Mary Asoero	Josie Bennett,
Dorothy Ikeri,	Nancy Wagas
Tess Abeham	Dinobi Nwuso

And those who are not mentioned.

I apologize for names not listed. Please do send us the names of those involved in healthcare during these challenging days. ([rshaw@stjeromewestchester.org](mailto:rshaw@stjeromewestchester.org))

**ANointing OF THE SICK** call 424-543-4681 and leave a message. Danger of death calls get priority.

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE** may be available for parishioners through the Cardinal Macintyre Fund. Contact Juanita for the documentation and bills which parishioners need to get this one time grant.

I do need your help. The earliest we will have public mass is April 19th. Our parish needs your assistance. Without Sunday services our income is minimal yet bills continue to arrive. Please mail in your Sunday donation or donate to our parish at our website. Thank you for your generosity. ([www.stjeromelax.org](http://www.stjeromelax.org))

My mom appreciates that I am calling her more frequently. Maybe there might be some small blessings made available due to this crisis? You will have opportunities to be witnesses of love.

### A Way to Reach Out to Others

Kaiser Permanente West LA is looking for people who are willing to speak to patients who are in the hospital. Due to the coronavirus, patients are not allowed to have any visitors but need someone to share spiritual support, prayer or bible reading by phone.

If you can help, please contact Keisha Kennedy at Kaiser Permanente 323-203-7500

### Fast and Abstinence

The Church calls upon its members to put themselves in union with the suffering of Christ by acts of personal sacrifice. Because Friday was the day of Jesus' suffering and death, the Church asks Catholics to **abstain from eating meat on all the Fridays of Lent.**

### Deceased

Condolences are extended to the family and friends

#### Terri Chacon

(Mother of Grace Chacon)  
May she rest in peace



### Please Pray for the Sick

Hector G. Amezcua	Jamie Brazile
Vincent Butt	Hazel Chu
Rorrie de la Vega	Agatha Ezeani
Xavier Galindo	Mark Gauerke
Anne Gingras	Michelle Gonzalez
Dindo Honrado	Monique Isaac
Eileen LaCasse	Tom Lenert
John Marcello	John McCreary
Louise Meehan	Caroline Metz
Allene Muccia	Nina Mueller
Scott Petty	Sam Quatto
Eileen Reyes	Maria Ross
Dianne Smith	Betty Spindler
Gary Steed	Natalie Tun
Brooklyn Dvi-Vardhana	Cynthia Flores Zapata

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