



DEAF MINISTRY

March 2021



We are now well into the season of Lent. As Christopher Gunty said in the Catholic Review March 2021, it seems like we have been in a very long period of “Lent” since the restrictions began because of the pandemic. No social gatherings, having to wear masks, no opportunity (or very limited opportunity) to go out to eat, etc., etc. We have had to go through some very difficult challenges and give up so many things that we took for granted. Maybe during this Lent, we can consider some of these sacrifices as Lenten sacrifices.

Maybe we can try to see how we can use the restrictions during this pandemic to find ways that we have grown or can grow in our relationship with God. Have you been able to find a livestream Sunday Mass in ASL? There are several to choose from. Have you found time to read from the Bible or do some other spiritual reading? Have you taken time for prayer? Did you reach out to someone else who might be alone or lonely? Have you found other ways to help others who are in need?

Lent is not over. Consider how you might use this present situation, as difficult as it has been, to be a time for spiritual growth. Look over some of the opportunities that are available, so that you might be able to grow closer to God and make His presence, His love known in the world.



ASL Catholic Media has a YouTube video of **The Stations of the Cross from Mary’s Perspective in ASL**. You might find this inspiring.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTbwqpL2nuc>



Fr. Mike Depcik has been willing to meet with us on Zoom every 2 months to answer any questions you might have about the Mass, the Bible, or Catholicism. He calls it “**Catholicism 101.**” Join us with your questions, or just come and see the discussion. Learn about our Catholic faith. Next session will be on March 14 at 7 pm. I will send out Zoom link on March 14.

Ms. Sue Gudenkauf has been willing to meet with us on Zoom for a **faith sharing session** every 2 months. Sue usually has a chosen topic with a short presentation, then time for questions and sharing. The next faith sharing session will be on April 11 at 7 pm. I will send a Zoom link.



What is a Chrism Mass? And what is chrism?



The Chrism Mass is one of the most solemn and important liturgies of the year. Usually, the archbishop is joined by all the priests of the archdiocese for this Mass. All those present renew the promises of their baptism. The priests renew their promises to the bishop. The Chrism Mass is a sign of unity of the bishop and the priests. This special Mass was traditionally done on Holy Thursday morning, but can be done on a different day earlier in Holy Week. At the same Mass, the archbishop blesses the three different oils (one of them is call Holy Chrism) that are used in the sacraments in the

parishes during the year. These Holy Oils are then brought back to the parishes throughout the archdiocese. They are used in the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders (Ordinations), the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, and the Anointing of the Sick.

In the Archdiocese of Baltimore, the Chrism Mass this year will take place on Monday, March 29 at 7:30 pm at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen. Because of the pandemic, the public will be unable to attend the Chrism Mass this year. However, this Mass will be livestreamed with ASL interpreting. Here is the link: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cathedralofmary/videos>



Interpreted Masses during Holy Week

Some people have received the vaccine and some people may want to attend an interpreted Mass in their parish. If you would like to attend Mass in your parish on Palm Sunday, Easter, or other days during Holy week, you should contact the interpreter in your parish or contact the parish office and request an interpreter. Many parishes have not been providing interpreted Masses because Deaf people have not been attending and have not yet requested this service again.

Here is a list of Sunday Masses online and a list of what is available online during the week:

Sunday Masses in ASL:

St. John's Deaf Center, Detroit - Fr. Mike Depcik

Sundays 11:30 a.m. ET - Facebook live <https://www.facebook.com/deafmass>.

Archdiocese of Boston - Fr. Shawn Carey

Sundays 11:00am ET Livestream - <https://www.youtube.com/user/DeafApostolateBoston>

Available later at <https://bostondeafcatholic.org/>

Holy Angels Deaf Church, Los Angeles - Fr. Tom Schweitzer and Deacon Tomas Garcia

Sundays 11:30am ET (ASL and spoken English) 2:30 pm ET (ASL and Spanish/Español) -

<https://www.youtube.com/user/hacofthedeaf/live>

Diocese of Rockford, IL – Msgr. Glenn Nelson

Sundays 11 am ET - Facebook live <https://www.facebook.com/RockfordDeafApostolate>

Diocese of Newark, NJ - Fr. Tom Coughlin or Fr. Bismarck Chau

Sundays 1:00 pm — <https://www.facebook.com/St-Johns-Catholic-Deaf-Community-1515283505356491>

Daily ASL Masses & Prayer:

Archdiocese of Boston - Fr. Shawn Carey

Mondays 10:30 am ET - Mass Livestream <https://www.youtube.com/user/DeafApostolateBoston>

Available later at <https://bostondeafcatholic.org/>

St. John's Deaf Center, Detroit - Fr. Mike Depcik

Mondays 11:15 am ET - Adoration & Rosary Facebook live <https://www.facebook.com/deafmass>.

St. John's Deaf Center, Detroit - Fr. Mike Depcik

Tuesdays 10:30 am ET - Mass Facebook live <https://www.facebook.com/deafmass>

St. John's Deaf Center, Detroit - Fr. Mike Depcik

Fridays 11:15 am ET - Adoration/Rosary Facebook live <https://www.facebook.com/deafmass>