St. Teresa's Morden

Canon Michael Scanlon, KHS Parish Priest Pastoral Assistant: Mr. Con Diver

Parish e-mail address: morden@rcaos.org.uk 250, Bishopsford Road, Morden. SM4 6BZ. Tel. 8648 4113 https://www.stcm.org.uk

Our Church is open for Mass weekdays at 10a.m., on Saturdays at 5.30p.m. and Sundays at 9a.m. and 11a.m. Please see the Mass Attendance Protocols below

SUNDAY MASSES (including Saturday Vigil) the CHURCH IS OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 10am MASS is ONLINE ONLY

Mass Times and Intentions-Year B:

Sunday 31st January-Racial Justice Day

5.30pm Vigil - Carmelo D'Emanuelle RIP

9am People of the Parish

Coleman & Maureen Flagherty's Intentions 11am

Monday 1st February

10a.m. Joseph McBride RIP & Leana McBride's Intentions-

ONLINE only

Tuesday 2nd February-Feast of the Presentation of The Lord

Diane Waterfall, Welfare- ONLINE only 10am

Wednesday 3rd February

10am Danny Thompson Family – ONLINE only

Thanksgiving to all those who supported them

Thursday 4th February-Votive Mass of the Holy Souls

Maureen Deb RIP - ONLINE only

Friday 5th February-St. Agatha. FIRST FRIDAY

For the Sick, Housebound, Isolating, Suffering 10am

and Recovering from Coronavirus - ONLINE only

Saturday 6th February-Our Lady

For Your Special Intentions – ONLINE only 10am

5.30pm Bella Harding, deceased family and friends.

Sunday 7th February

Antonia Urbni & Family's Intention 9am

People of the Parish 11am



CANDLEMAS



St Teresa's School, Montacute Road, Morden. Tel No 020 8648 1846 Headteacher: Mr Justin Dachtler. **Merton Catholic Deanery** www.mertoncatholics.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE:

Because of the widespread of COVID-19 we are celebrating Holy Mass **ONLINE**

Monday – Saturday 10am Our Masses online are available at https://www.stcm.org.uk/

Sunday Masses the church will be **OPEN** to parishioners.

Saturday Vigil 5.30pm (doors open 5pm) Sunday 9am (doors open 8.30am) Sunday 11am (doors open 10.30am)

As we move into Tier 5 Masses will continue to be celebrated as normal on Sunday (including the Saturday Vigil) and will be Online only during the week, however, the parish office will now be closed until further notice.

THREE WAYS TO PRAY FOR THOSE RECOVERING FROM THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

In the face of a global crisis, it can be hard to know where to start with prayer. Here are three simple ways you can pray for those working to rebuild from the coronavirus crisis in your daily life.

1. Pray with the scriptures

St. Augustine said, "The Holy Scriptures are our letters from home." Try reading a daily passage from the Gospel and reflecting on how its lessons could help in our world today.

2. Start a Novena

This is a simple and powerful way to commit to prayer. Choose a prayer that has personal meaning for you and pray it for nine days. Ask friends or family to join your Novena and pray with you.

3. Pray your way

We all have ways that we are most comfortable praying. If you pray the Rosary, could you offer a decade for those affected by coronavirus? If you pray the Angelus, could you remember all those on the front line of this crisis?



St. Joseph, Hope of the Sick, Pray for Us

God has healed many people through the intercession of Saint Joseph, such as Saint Teresa of Avilla. Saint Teresa of Lisieux would have died in infancy were it not for the intercession of Saint Joseph. Her mother and father now Saint Louis and Saint Zélie implored and prayed before his statue for his help and his powerful blessing.

As a parish family and those who join us on-line, we pray day in and day out for the sick and housebound. We pray for all who carry the cross of suffering around the world and we pray for the following:

Joseph Lunn, Maureen Smith, Jean Lue, Ruba Santipillai, Frank Mendonça,
Baby Alexander Lynch, Erika Geddes, Denise Waaldjk, Lena McBride, Valerie Sommerset, Kevin
Mooney, John Mooney, Angela Patcheye, Leonard Paice, Michael O'Kelly, Kevin and Margaret
Peacock, Mary Reilly, Alan O'Leary, Bill and June O'Keefe, Gerry Gillan, Leonard James Connolly,
Thea Haddad, Nora Williams, Margaret Lahy, Brian Wratten, Ann Van Essen, Bella Harding, Eileen
Stevens, Dave Herris, Gabriel Lyons, Sylvester Forya, Michael and Madge Durkan,
Jocyln De Silva, Anna Kashtelyan, Mary Jeanette Connaire, Anna Urbni.



We remember especially all the sick Religious of the diocese, of the United Kingdom and the world over.

We also have two young mothers in our parish who have recently been diagnosed with cancer, we are keeping them in prayer – please keep them in yours.

WE REMEMBER THEM AND PRAY FOR THEIR SOULS



Saints of God, come to their aid

- Dolores Johnson (Funeral 16th February 2021)
- Lolito Laydia (Funeral 22nd February 2021)
- Dermot Peter Long (Funeral 4th March 2021)
- Anne Donaldson
- Christiane Saide
- Sean Fahy
- Olu Coker
- Joseph Micallef
- Avril Castella
- Emmanuelle Kumedzina
- Fr. Paul Sanders

Come to meet them angels of the Lord!

Receive their soul and present them to God the Most High.

May Christ who called you, take you to himself; may angels lead you to Abraham's side.

Our Parish prays: Give them external rest, O Lord and may your light shine on each of them forever. *May They Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory. Amen.*

All at St. Teresa's offer our condolence to the people of the parish of Holy Cross following the loss of their parish priest Fr. Paul Sanders. We commend his soul to Almighty God and keep him, his family, his friends and his parish in our prayers.

May He Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory. Amen

A LIFE REMEMBERED

May He Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory

Danny Thompson's wife Eileen and her children Sharon, Alison and Emma wish to thank the Parish Family for their gift of prayer, Masses and spiritual support they received following Danny's call to

Eternal Life. As a token of their deep appreciation a Mass will be celebrated as a THANK YOU for your kindness and thoughtfulness in their hour of need.

The Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 3rd February 10am.

Please continue to keep those on our Parish Sick List in your prayers. There are also those self-isolating, those in the early stages of the virus and those on the road to recovery. We also have parishioners receiving treatment for cancer.

If you or someone you know is sick, seek the help of Saint Joseph. Our Blessed Lord will be pleased to see you seek this great saints blessing and support for healing. Some continue, some willingly, to carry the Cross of Suffering. Whether you experience a physical healing or not, Saint Joseph always offers hope for an illness-free life in heaven. This wonderful servant of heaven will help you to be abandoned to Divine Providence. You too might cry out in prayer "thy will be done".



St. Joseph, patron of men, of husbands and fathers pray for us! Pray for our Parish Family,

St. Joseph, patron of workers, pray for us!

St. Joseph, protector and guardian of families pray for us!

St. Joseph, patron and defender of the Universal Catholic Church, pray for us!

Pray for us,

Amen.

A CALL TO PRAYER - TUESDAY 2ND FEBRUARY

Feast of the Presentation of The Lord

The Catholic Church will hold its annual celebration of WORLD DAY OF PRAYER for Consecrated Life this Tuesday and in intercessions at our weekend parish Masses.

In unity with the nations of the world, our Pope, our bishops and the faithful of Holy Mother Church, we see that this is a special time for every Catholic, every parish to celebrate the gift of Consecrated Life and pray for men and women discerning a consecrated vocation.

Instituted by St. Pope John Paul II in 1997, World Day of Prayer in conjunction with the Feast of the Presentation of The Lord, also known as Candlemas Day, which commemorates through the blessing and lighting of candles that Christ is the Light of the World. So, too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus to all peoples.

To mark this Special Day following our 10am Mass we will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 12 Midday. Fr. Roshy, a Capuchin Priest, will give a Spiritual Reflection of Consecrated Life at 11.30am.



ASH WEDNESDAY 2021



This year Ash Wednesday falls on Wednesday 17th February. It's a day of fasting and abstinence. Ashes will be blessed during our 10am Mass. We wish to begin our Parish Lenten Journey in the best possible way. We will be open. Social distancing will be fully implemented. We will not be able to distribute the Ashes in the usual way. This year we will be sprinkling them over your head. The Pope and many around the world receive in this manner - so you will be in good company. Below is an outline of a very Special Day we plan for Ash Wednesday.

9.30 Church Doors Open

Rosary led by Parishioners

10am Holy Mass With Distribution of Ashes

11am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

11.15am Rosary

12.30-12.45 Sprinkling of Ashes available

1-2pm Silent Prayer

2pm Guided Meditation Led by Con Diver

3pm Rosary Led by Members of the Parish Council

3.30-4pm Sprinkling of Ashes

4.15pm Rosary Led by Members of the Parish Adoration Team

5pm Prayers or Benediction With Fr. Roshy and Canon Michael

5.30pm Holy Mass

For your Lenten Intentions with Sprinkling of Ashes

6.30pm Church Closes.

Please note: This year we can offer, because of the circumstances we find ourselves in, a chance for one family member to pick up a small amount of ashes - Blessed - to bring home and offer to those sick, housebound, or isolating. We will also put on our website and newsletter a prayer for you to use at home.

GRACIOUS AND LOVING FATHER

This is where we live out our faith. Since 1937 tens of thousands have come through our doors to seek you in prayer, to honour your Son, Our Lord Jesus, to ask Him for heavenly help. We know He is in our midst when we meet at Holy Mass, in Adoration, in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, in the Sacred Words of Holy Scripture proclaimed in the assembly of the faithful, He is honoured and loved in each of our Seven Sacraments. He is in the hearts and ministry of our Catechists, our Readers, our Eucharistic Ministers, our Altar Server Team. He welcomes and blesses all who seek His love and mercy. He is our friend who we can rely on in Private Prayer. He points us to his Blessed Mother, "Seek her help, seek her support, seek her guidance". It's true she is the Mother of our Parish, with Saint Joseph her co-worker - she supports without hesitation the sons and daughters of Saint Teresa's parish. Every family, every young person, every single person, every sick person, everyone troubled in mind or spirit can seek solace and spiritual comfort.

Your saints led by Saint Teresa are loved and honoured throughout the year, Holy Souls know that we pray for them with the assistance of their Guardian Angels and ours too.

We seek Heaven's blessing for our Parish and all who live out their faith in our midst and online. These are difficult times for the church on earth as we live through a world-wide pandemic. We also know that the Holy Spirit is guiding us all through these difficult, sad and troubling times. We can sense His Presence, we can sense His Guidance, we can sense His Light at the end of the tunnel.

Week by week, we come to share or give witness to our faith. Saint Teresa's is dedicated and consecrated to worshipping You.

We are grateful for the chance to show our love for You and the family of Heaven. So many at this time are unable to join us for Holy Mass here in the church and for other special moments in the life of the parish.

So, we pray now for those who, for a variety of reasons are unable to worship with us, those confined to their homes, those no longer fit enough to get out and about, those in hospital, those in care homes, those in care homes, those having to work on Sundays, those looking after loved ones, those advised to stay at home during this pandemic, those who are scared and frightened to leave home.

We pray too for those who have drifted away from regular attendance, those who have lost their faith, those who have lost trust in the Catholic Church, or joined other churches, or moved to a new area among new people.

Gracious and Loving Father,
May each of these, good people, our friends,
know they are still remembered,
much valued,
and much cared about.

We miss them in our midst, we send out our blessing to each and every one of them, whatever their situation, whatever their challenges may they know You are close by their side, joined with us and all Your parish family in the heart of every Holy Mass, in the heart of the Rosary, in the heart of every prayer.

Amen.

WHAT IS MEDITATION?

Meditation is a Christian practice of prayer dating back to the early Church. As the Catechism states: "Meditation is above all a quest. The mind seeks to understand the why and how of the Christian life, in order to adhere and respond to what the Lord is asking." By meditating on the Gospels, holy icons, liturgical texts, spiritual writings, or "the great book of creation," we come to make our own that which is God's. "To the extent that we are humble and faithful, we discover in meditation the movements that stir the heart and we are able to discern them. It is a question of acting truthfully in order to come into the light: "Lord, what do you want me to do?" (CCC 2705-2706).

How do we pray with Sacred Scripture?

Spiritual reading of Sacred Scripture, especially the Gospels, is an important form of meditation. This spiritual reading is traditionally called lectio divina or divine reading. Lectio divina is prayer over the Scriptures.

- 1. The first element of this type of prayer is reading (lectio): you take a short passage from the Bible, preferably a Gospel passage and read it carefully, perhaps three or more times. Let it really soak-in.
- 2. The second element is meditation (meditatio). By using your imagination enter into the Biblical scene in order to "see" the setting, the people, and the unfolding action. It is through this meditation that you encounter the text and discover its meaning for your life.
- 3. The next element is prayer (oratio) or your personal response to the text: asking for graces, offering praise or thanksgiving, seeking healing or forgiveness. In this prayerful engagement with the text, you open yourself up to the possibility of contemplation.
- 4. Contemplation (contemplatio) is a gaze turned toward Christ and the things of God. By God's action of grace, you may be raised above meditation to a state of seeing or experiencing the text as mystery and reality. In contemplation, you come into an experiential contact with the One behind and beyond the text.

What are devotions?

Popular devotions are expressions of love and fidelity that arise from the intersection of one's own faith, culture and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As Saint John Paul II said in 2001:

"Genuine forms of popular piety, expressed in a multitude of different ways, derives from the faith and, therefore, must be valued and promoted. Such authentic expressions of popular piety are not at odds with the centrality of the Sacred Liturgy. Rather, in promoting the faith of the people, who

regard popular piety as a natural religious expression, they predispose the people for the celebration of the Sacred Mysteries.

The correct relationship between these two expressions of faith must be based on certain firm principles, the first of which recognizes that the Liturgy is the centre of the Church's life and cannot be substituted by, or placed on a par with, any other form of religious expression. Moreover, it is important to reaffirm that popular religiosity, even if not always evident, naturally culminates in the celebration of the Liturgy towards which it should ideally be oriented. This should be made clear through suitable catechesis." (Address to the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, September 21, 2001).

Join with the Church as she expresses her praise and devotion to God through many popular devotional practices. They are priceless!

Please Be Aware.

At this time, there is an increasing risk of cybercrime and online fraud. If you ever receive an email stating a change in bank account details purporting to be from the Archdiocese or from any of the diocesan parishes, please contact the diocese immediately by telephone on 020 8682 7880 in order to verify that the email is genuine and not a scam.

Sunday Collections and Donations

During the current situation, we would like to say a huge THANK YOU to the many of you who have kindly signed up to **standing orders**. This is so much appreciated and valued. If you wish to contribute by cheque in lieu of plate collections, this can be sent to the presbytery: St. Teresa's Church, 250, Bishopsford Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 6BJ. They may be made payable to St. Teresa's Catholic Church.

Our thanks to the families of Maureen Deb and Theresa Bearn for their generosity and thoughtfulness for the kind donation of £1,000 each in honour of the memory of Maureen and Theresa.

May God bless you and may their souls Rest In Peace and Rise In Glory.

Many thanks to those of you who have so kindly offered to set up standing orders in lieu of our Sunday plate collections. This is a most convenient method of planned giving (for all concerned); already used by so many at Morden – and is vitally important at this time. Regular standing orders can be for any amount, no matter how small – just give what you can afford. Please send a written request via the parish office with contact details.

We will be happy to receive any offerings directly by on-line banking or by <u>standing order</u>, which can be arranged through your bank, or by using the <u>DONATE</u> link here or on the parish website.

Do You Gift Aid?

The value of your donation can be increased by 25% at no extra cost to yourself, simply by gift aiding it if you are a taxpayer. The parish learns nothing about your private financial affairs. The average weekly collection between plate and standing orders, is approximately £2,400 a week. If only half of that was GIFT AIDED, it would mean an extra £300 a

week, or £15,600 a year to Parish funds. We are genuinely grateful to those who are Gift-Aiding. If you haven't been doing so, please print off a Gift Aid form from the parish website. At the present time the parish income is down about £5,000 each month. Hopefully, when parish life returns to normal, we will soon see these financial worries and concerns disappear.

Basic Government Advise on Face Coverings/Masks at Mass

Face coverings are mandatory now in places of worship. Many of you already attend Holy Mass wearing one – Thank You!

From now on at St. Teresa's all who attend Mass, or any other service must wear a face covering, unless they are exempt from doing so. This is for the good of all who gather in the Church for Mass, as it is an enclosed public space where there are people from different households who do not normally meet.

Mass at St. Teresa's

St. Teresa's Parish General Protocols

The Cardinal and the Archbishop wish to reassure you that THE DISPENATION of the faithful from the obligation to attend SUNDAY MASS remains in place for the time being. NO ONE IS OBLIGED to attend Holy Mass whilst dispensation is in effect.

- All Sunday and Weekday Masses will continue to be Streamed Live on the Internet via the usual link.
- Attendees and volunteers from demographic groups at a greater risk of serious illness, such as people 65 years of age or older and individuals with chronic medical conditions, are encouraged to stay safe by avoiding public gatherings, but are not prohibited from attending Mass if they so choose.
- Anyone attending Mass does so at their own risk.
- All attendees are strongly encouraged to wear a mask before entering the church, until they leave. Each person should bring their own masks.
- Another reminder: ANYONE who has even the slightest symptoms or feelings of sickness must remain home.
- THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY, (at this time), at Holy Mass is JUST 55 to be compliant with physical distancing guidelines issued by The Bishop's Conference and the Government
- Until further notice: Our Parish will adopt a FIRST COME, FIRST-SERVED approach at all our Masses.
- Please watch out for signage. Separate points of entry and exit will be clearly designated.
- We are required to keep a register of all attendees. So please put your name, address, contact telephone number, email address (if applicable) and the Mass you are attending on a piece of paper which you will hand in on entrance to the church.
- All attendees will be directed to their own special seat so as to monitor occupancy.
- Two benches will be designated for families.
- Infants and children should remain with their parents AT ALL TIMES.
- It is O.K. to wear disposable gloves. Those cleaning or altar cloths, replenishing candles or handling the parish collection should wear disposable gloves.
- We will have one point of entry in order to control the number of people entering. Once the maximum number of attendees is reached, no one else will be allowed entry.
- Doors will be locked until 25 minutes before Mass begins.
- If weather permits, all doors will be propped open before Mass as you arrive so that you do not need to touch the handles or doors to enter.

- At the end of Mass, exits will be signposted and indicated by the parish priest to expedite
 the guided departure and minimise chances of people encountering one another. In all
 cases, PHYSICAL DISTANCING MUST BE OBSERVED.
- I will be delighted to see you back, but please note that I must refrain from greeting you
 personally at the end of Mass. I must not impede or delay the orderly and rapid departure
 of you and your family.
- The Parish Church is closed at the end of each Mass for a special cleaning. Our thanks to the parish team.
- Please be aware that there will be NO toilet facilities.

SAFETY

- Physical distancing of 6 feet or 2 metres is in place at all times and in all directions between people who are not of the same household.
- You will be led by a team member to your seat please do not move or swap seats.
- Reminder Volunteers and ALL members of the congregation should use the Medical Guidelines that have been issued before attending Mass. If you have ANY symptoms, such as a cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose or sore throat, please stay at home.
- All team members, welcomers and participants please wear your own personal shield or mask.
- All who attend must observe proper hand hygiene from the point of entry, whilst inside and upon exciting the church.
- Hand sanitising stations are available by the doors of the church.
- Hand washing with soap and hot water for at least 20 seconds (say a prayer) is also strongly encouraged before arriving for Holy Mass.

HOLY MASS

These are some of the main points to note:

- Sacred Vessels will be purified and washed by the parish priest after Mass. This reduces
 the risk and need to have sacristans and Eucharistic ministers in the sacristy.
- No singing of hymns at this time. SORRY!
- Entrance and recessional processions are omitted. There will be a simple entrance by the priest.
- There will be only one lector and one reading.
- No Altar Servers so as to minimise the risk of exposure and to properly maintain physical distancing at all times.
- The chalice, paten, ciborium, cruets and lavabo will be on a small table beside the altar.
- Your parish priest will not be wearing a mask during the Liturgy of the Eucharist; therefore, all ciboria will be covered at all times. He will wear a visor if and when he distributes Holy Communion.
- No presentation of gifts will be made.
- No collection is taken up during the Mass. Instead, bins/baskets will be at strategic points for the faithful to make their offerings at the end of Mass. Secure vigilance will be in place over the donations.
- There is no Sign of Peace.
- There will be no Holy Water in fonts.
- All hymnals, missalettes, pew cards, pencils, donation envelopes and other loose items will be removed.
- Newsletters are only available on-line at the parish website.

Regarding the Distribution of Holy Communion:

- The individual attestation at the distribution of Holy Communion ("The Body of Christ, R: Amen) is eliminated. Instead, one general announcement ("The Body of Christ") will be made by the parish priest, and one general response ("Amen") is to be made by one and all before distribution begins. Then each person who wishes to receive the Blessed Sacrament comes forward in procession at a safe distance and receives in silence.
- The Precious Blood will not be distributed at this time.
- Holy Communion may only be received in the hand.
- For the common good, our Bishops around the world acknowledge that Communion on the tongue is the right of the faithful, ask you please receive ONLY in the hand until further notice. Thank you for your understanding and support.
- When needed, Ministers of the Eucharist may be invited to officiate at Holy Communion time. If called upon, Ministers of Holy Communion must sanitise their hands immediately after receiving Communion BEFORE distributing Holy Communion to the faithful. They must also sanitise their hands immediately after distribution.

Should you have any questions regarding this information please reply by email: morden@rcaos.org.uk or call our parish number: 020 8648 4113

PERFECT CONTRITION AND SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

What to do if you cannot go to Confession or Holy Communion due to the COVID-19 coronavirus:

If you have to self-isolate or are quarantined, you will be unable to receive the sacraments as normal. In these circumstances, there are devotions through which you can receive absolution for your sins (under certain conditions), and the consolation of Eucharistic grace.

The following devotions are officially encouraged by the Church and have been practised by saints.

How to make an Act of Perfect Contrition

Through an act of Perfect Contrition, you receive pardon for your sins outside of confession, even mortal sins, on condition that you are determined to amend your life and make a firm resolution to go to sacramental confession as soon as this becomes possible for you.



Perfect Contrition is a grace from God, so sincerely ask for this gift throughout the day prior to making your act of contrition: 'My God, grant me perfect contrition for my sins.'

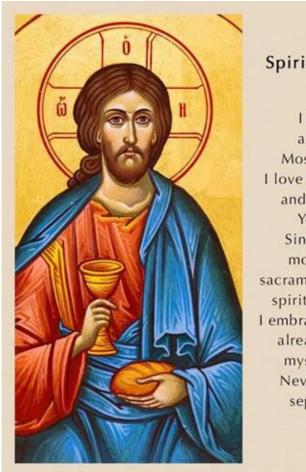
- 1. In reality or imagination kneel at the foot of the crucifix and say to yourself: "Jesus, my God and my Saviour, in the midst of your agony, you remembered me, you suffered for me, you wished to wipe away my sins"
- 2. Contrition is 'perfect' if you repent your sins because you love God and are sorry for having offended Him and causing the sufferings of Christ on the cross. Before the Crucified Christ remember your sins, repent of them because they have bought Our Lord His sufferings on the cross. Promise him that with His help, you will not sin again.

- 3. Recite, slowly and sincerely, an act of contrition focussed on the goodness of God and your love of Jesus: "O my God, because You are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against You and by the help of Your grace I will not sin again. Amen."
- 4. Make a firm resolution to go to a sacramental confession as soon as practically possible.

How to make a Spiritual Communion

The key to Spiritual Communion is to grow in your heart a constant desire for the Blessed Sacrament.

- 1. If you are aware of serious or mortal sin, make an Act of Perfect Contrition
- 2. Imagine the sacred words and actions of the Mass or watch online or on TV.
- 3. Make all those acts of faith, humility, sorrow, adoration, love and desire that you usually express before Holy Communion.
- 4. Desire, with earnest longing, to receive Our Lord present Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Blessed Sacrament.
- 5. Say the prayer of St. Alphonsus de' Ligouri The Prayer of Spiritual Communion
- 6. After moments of silent adoration make all those acts of faith, humility, love, thanksgiving and offering that you usually express through prayers after Holy Communion.



Prayer for Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

