

Dear St. John the Baptist and Holy Rosary Parishioners,

Bishop Lawrence Persico has asked that this coming Saturday, Sept. 15, the day when the Catholic Church venerates Our Mother of Sorrows, all churches be open to the faithful from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. so that people may make private visits in prayerful response to the crisis of sexual abuse.

Both St. John the Baptist and Holy Rosary Churches will be opened for prayer and we encourage each of you to take some time to stop in and pray. We need – and expect – that each and every parishioner participate in some way, even if you make some time to pray wherever you find yourself.

Holy Rosary's Mothers' Chapel will be reserved for silent private prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament and St. John the Baptist Church will be open for both communal and silent private prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

The following schedule will also allow those, who cannot come to church, the opportunity to pray in concert with our parish communities.

7:00 AM	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Morning Prayer – Both Parishes
9:00 AM	Rosary - Sorrowful Mysteries – St. John's
11:00 AM	Rosary - Joyful Mysteries – St. John's
Noon – 1:00 PM	Confessions available – Holy Rosary
1:00 PM	Rosary – Glorious Mysteries – St. John's
2:30 – 3:30 PM	Confessions available – St. John's
3:00 PM	Chaplet of Divine Mercy – St. John's
4:00 PM	Mass for the 24 th Sunday – St. John's
5:30 PM	Rosary – Luminous Mysteries – St. John's
6:30 – 7:00 PM	Evening Prayer and Benediction – Both Parishes



Bishop Persico says, “I invite all people to make time on that day to visit a church. Out of respect for each individual, I simply ask that you spend some quiet time there in prayer. You may want to pray for victims. You may be a victim yourself and wish to use the time to pray for healing. You may want to pray that the leaders of the church renew their commitment to Christian discipleship, providing strong moral leadership. You may want to pray for the grace and faith you need in your own life at this time. However you are inspired by the Holy Spirit, I invite you to come and pray.”

The Acts of the Apostles (4:31) says, “As they prayed, the place where they were gathered shook, and they were all filled with the holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.” We could use some of this – having been shaken by the revelations in the grand jury report.

Sincerely,

Pastor