

**Closing Mass**  
**Day of Prayer for the Church and Victims of Abuse**  
**on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

Friday, September 14, 2018

5:15p.m.

St. Peter in Chains Cathedral  
St. Joseph Church, Dayton  
St. Michael Church, Ft. Loramie

**Introductory Rites**

**Greeting and Introduction**

**Celebrant:**           **In the Name of the Father...**

**(Arch)bishop**

**Peace be with you.**

or

**Priest:**

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**

**All:**                   *And with your spirit.*

**Celebrant:**           **Today, Catholics all over the Archdiocese have joined in prayer for the Church and for victims of abuse and their families.**

**Words cannot express my deep sorrow for all affected by this crisis. One cannot overstate the gravity of sexual abuse and the lifelong scars victims endure every day. Nor can we diminish the anguish felt by their families and the sense of betrayal experienced by the lay faithful and ordained**

**ministers who have faithfully served the Church.  
While the darkness right now is deep and it is  
difficult to see what lies ahead,  
we find strength and hope in Jesus Christ.**

**As we gather on this Feast of the Exaltation of the  
Cross, we recall its great mystery: death and  
darkness do not have the last word;  
Jesus Christ, raised high on the cross,  
rose in triumph over the sins of the human race  
and brought light and life into the world.**

**This evening, as we enter into the mystery of the  
cross, let us ask that in his mercy God sustain us on  
our pilgrimage to eternal life.**

#### **Penitential Act**

**Celebrant** Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our  
sins and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the  
sacred mysteries.

**Deacon:** Lord Jesus, you saved humanity by the wood of  
the cross.  
Lord, have mercy. R. *Lord, have mercy.*

**Deacon:** Lord Jesus, you bring light to those in darkness.  
Christ, have mercy. R. *Christ, have mercy.*

**Deacon:** Lord Jesus, you are Savior of the world:  
Lord, have mercy. R. *Lord, have mercy.*

**Celebrant:** May Almighty God have mercy on us,  
forgive us our sins,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

**Gloria** *Sung*

**Collect** p. 804 (Catholic Book Roman Missal)

### **Liturgy of the Word – L638**

**First Reading** Numbers 21:4b - 9

**Responsorial Psalm** Psalm 78

**Second Reading** Philippians 2:6-11

**Gospel Acclamation** *sung*

**Gospel** Jn. 3: 13-17 *Proclaimed by the deacon.*

**Homily**

**Universal Prayer**

**Celebrant:** **In this time of sorrow we turn to the Lord and place before him our petitions.**

**Deacon:** For Pope Francis, bishops, priests, deacons, and all who lead us: may they follow the example of Christ, the Good Shepherd, who guides and guards his flock, no matter the cost. We pray to the Lord.

For victims of abuse, for their families, and for all affected by this crisis in the Church: may they find healing and wholeness through the outpouring of God's mercy. We pray to the Lord.

For all members of the Church who carry the cross of Christ: may we commit ourselves to speaking out against injustice and to finding ways to effect change. We pray to the Lord.

For good and faithful bishops and priests who continue to shepherd their people and proclaim Christ's message of love: may they find strength and hope in the mystery of the cross. We pray to the Lord.

For parents, teachers, catechists, youth ministers, and coaches: may they be vigilant to the signs of trauma or abuse in all under their care. We pray to the Lord.

For the sick and dying: may they experience the compassionate care of loving families and communities of faith. We pray to the Lord.

*Prayer for Vocations, found in the program booklet is said in place of the Concluding Prayer:*

Almighty Father,  
You have created us for some definite purpose.  
Grant us the grace to know the path  
You have planned for us in this life  
and to respond with a generous "Yes."

Make our archdiocese, parishes, homes and hearts  
fruitful ground for Your gift of vocations.  
May our young people respond to Your call  
with courage and zeal.

Stir among our men a desire and the strength  
to be good and holy priests.  
Bless us with consecrated religious and those called  
to a chaste single life, permanent deacons,  
and faithful husbands and wives,  
who are a sign of Christ's love for His Church.

We commend our prayer for vocations to You, Father,  
through the intercession of Mary our Mother,  
in the Holy Spirit, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Liturgy of the Eucharist

*The gifts are presented by members of the assembly.*

*Prayer over the Gifts: p 804*

*Proper Preface: p. 806*

*The Liturgy of the Eucharist follows as usual.*

## Concluding Rite

### Prayer over the People and Final Blessing

**Celebrant:**           **The Lord be with you.**

**All:**                    *And with your spirit.*

**Deacon:**           **Bow down for the blessing.**

**Celebrant:**           **Be near to those who call on you, O Lord, and  
graciously grant your protection  
to all who place their hope in your mercy,  
that they may remain faithful in holiness of life,  
and, having enough for their needs in this  
world,  
they may be made full heirs of your promise  
for eternal life.**

**Through Christ our Lord.                   R. Amen.**

*Prayer Over the People, 19, p. 40.*

**Celebrant:**           **And may the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit,  
come down on you and remain with you  
for ever.                                       R. Amen.**

## Dismissal

**Deacon:**           **Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.**

**All:**                 *Thanks be to God.*