

SINNOPSKORIÐ: Pentecost 2020

“Fear not” Jesus tells us time and time again in the gospels. “I am with you all days until the end of time”(Matt.28.20). This period of the covid-19 pandemic with its many restrictions has caused a lot of fear and many have reacted to the situation out of fear. True followers of Christ act to the situation out of love for Christ and the certain knowledge and conviction that He is with us. They see the pandemic as a real call from God to true repentance for sin and to a deeper faith and trust in Jesus, who is the Lord of history. True followers of Christ act like Christ, praying and offering sacrifices for those, who have little or no faith in God, for those who are suffering, and being there for those in need of help. That we as followers of Christ can think and act in this way is due solely to the power of the Holy Spirit.

The pouring out of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday completes the salvific work of Christ. Christ’s suffering and death on the cross, His resurrection and ascension to the Father’s right hand in heaven paved the way for the Holy Spirit to come and radically transform human beings from slaves to sin and the tyranny of hell, into sons and daughters of God with the right of inheritance. All who are baptized into the death and resurrection of Christ and thus grafted into His Body, the Church, the family of God, are no longer just ordinary human beings. We are radically changed and share in God’s own divinity. We are His holy Tempel, where God dwells (Joh.14,23). Therefore, we as followers of Christ are to think and act as Christ in every situation. The apostle Paul tells us in his letter to the Church in Philippi: “Put on the mind of Christ” (Phil.2,5). With these words I wish all a very inspiring and holy Pentecost.

Paul Marx,omi
parish priest

Reopening for liturgical celebration

Because of the positive development of the pandemic, the government has partially eased its restrictions on the churches and the number of persons allowed in the church room. We can be ca. 35 persons in the church room. Of course, we must be mindful of social distancing, which means 1 meter between persons. However, family members can be close together.

First Communion

Because of the covid-19 pandemic with the many restrictions, we had to postpone until further the celebration of First Communion, which was to have been celebrated on Mercy Sunday the 19th of April. Seven children under the competent guidance and catechetical instruction of Sr.Florence have prepared themselves to receive their first holy communion. They are: Benjamin and Mia , Ingeborg Lilja and Heimir , Kristina Margretha , Eryk and Léa Maria.

After consultation with the parents, Ingeborg and Heimir and Eryk receive their first holy communion on Pentecost Sunday, while the parents of the other children chose to wait until the after parish has returned to normal times. We wish Ingeborg Lilja and Heimir and Eryk a very warm and heart-felt congratulations with this most important spiritual event in their lives, and we joyfully look forward to Benjamin’s and Mia’s and Kristina’s and Léa’s first holy communion.

Reception into the Church

On Easter Sunday the 12th of April, Eilif , and Sunday the 19th of April, Ívar, were received into the Catholic Church’ full fellowship after a fruitful preparation under the competent guidance of Sr.Maria. We welcome with great joy both men into the Eucharistic fellowship of Mariukirkjan.

Parish economy

There's no question that the parish finances, with no collections during the past two months, have taken a dip. I encourage all those who do not yet contribute regularly to the support of the Church (the diocese and parish), to do so. You can do this, by arranging with your bank to transfer a certain amount every month (or every other month or half year - whatever you find best) to the parish account in Betri bank: **9181 1505159**.

Rosary before Sunday Mass

Praying the rosary before Sunday Mass is very beneficial for the spiritual life of the parish. It will now resume on Sunday the 7th of June in Kerit at 10,30.

Help to pay for renewal of church room

During the quiet two months that have recently passed, the church room both upstairs and downstairs, the sacristy and the parish hall received a new coat of paint. The floor in the church was also renewed. The entire church room looks like new. The cost for the painting was kr.72,000 and the floor was kr.20,000. It would be a great boost to the parish's economy if you could contribute to help pay for this renewal by transferring your contribution to the parish bank account at Betri: **9181 7159945** marking your contribution with "kirkerum". It's also possible to give your contribution directly to Sr.Marisa.

The immediate priestly situation

The corona virus pandemic has caused a great disturbance in the planned priestly presence in the parish the coming two months. Frs. Frans de Haas and Benny Blumensaat were scheduled to substitute for me from the 12th of June to the 30th of July, 7 Sundays altogether. Because of the great uncertainty of whether or not they could even enter the Faroes plus the most likely possibility of having to stay in quarantine for 14 days, if they were allowed in, I could see, that it just didn't pay for them to come. So I canceled their coming to the Faroes. I leave the 11th of June by ferry to Denmark and won't be back until Friday the 31st of July. This means that there will be 7 priestless Sundays. Even though there will be no celebration of the Mass, our deacon, Christian Gabrielsen, will celebrate the liturgy of the Word with distribution of communion on those 7 Sundays. It's very important that you make the effort to come to church these Sundays to keep holy the Lord's Day and to be spiritually strengthened by hearing God's Word and receiving the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ in holy communion.

Paul Marx,omi