



*Serving the Spiritual Needs of Grieving Parents
Whose Children of Any Age Have Died by Any Cause,
No Matter How Long Ago*

**Your Emmaus Ministry
Remote Retreat Guide
May 2 , 2020
9:30am EDT**



DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU...

During Mary's month of May, we draw much comfort from the Mother of God.

Preparation:

Ahead of time, we recommend you find a quiet place in your home where you can immerse yourself in this retreat. Have your child's Emmaus Memorial Candle (or other candle) available along with a lighter or matches.

Take several deep breaths to cleanse your thoughts and open yourself to wherever the Holy Spirit is calling you today several minutes before the retreat is scheduled to begin.

At 9:30am EDT (our normal retreat beginning time) open your email and join other fellow Emmaus Parent Companions in getting away from the rest of the world, at least for a time, to focus on God and on your precious child.

CANDLE LIGHTING PRAYER (Light your candle)

We begin... In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, Amen

Lord, you are the Light of the World. *Help us feel your presence in the lighting of this candle.*

Lord, you gave us the gift of our children. *Help us feel their presence in the lighting of this candle.*

Lord, you gave us the hope of eternal life. *Help us confirm that hope in the lighting of this candle.*

Lord, you gave us love. *Help us to know that, as much as we love our children, you love them even more.*

We ask you this through Christ, Our Lord
Amen.

OPENING SONG: [Ave Maria](#)

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Benedicta tu in mulieribus,

Blessed art thou among women,

Et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.

And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,

Holy Mary, Mother of God,

Ora pro nobis peccatoribus,

Pray for us sinners

Nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

Now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

PRAYER OF THOSE MAKING A RETREAT

Loving Spirit of Wisdom,

Guide my thoughts and my memories.

In the light of your love,

May I see what is important for me to remember,

What is important for me to hold to my heart,

And what I need to simply let go of in peace.

I trust you to be my guide,

Even when the path seems unclear to me.

We pray this in the name of Your Son, the Healer,

Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 2: 1 -12

On the third day there was a wedding at Cana in Galilee.

The mother of Jesus was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited.

And they ran out of wine, since the wine provided for the feast had all been used, and the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.'

Jesus said, 'Woman, what do you want from me? My hour has not come yet.'

His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.'

There were six stone water jars standing there, meant for the ablutions that are customary among the Jews: each could hold twenty or thirty gallons.

Jesus said to the servants, 'Fill the jars with water,' and they filled them to the brim.

Then he said to them, 'Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter of the feast.'

They did this; the headwaiter tasted the water, and it had turned into wine. Having no idea where it came from -- though the servants who had drawn the water knew -- the headwaiter of the feast called the bridegroom and said, 'Everyone serves good wine first and the worse wine when the guests are well wined; but you have kept the best wine till now.'

This was the first of Jesus' signs: it was at Cana in Galilee. He revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him.

After this, he went down to Capernaum with his mother and his brothers and his disciples, but they stayed there only a few days.

REFLECTION: [The Marriage Feast of Cana](#)

Bishop Fulton J. Sheen

PRAYER OF HOPE

O God of Healing and Hope...

In Jesus, you meet us in our suffering and fear.

Look with mercy and compassion on those of us whose children have died.

Look with mercy and compassion on those of us who have been affected by this pandemic and on those of us who are vulnerable to it.

Through this global trial, by your Holy Spirit, bring out the best in us. Help us to help each other.

Make us more aware of our interdependence on each other and of the strength that comes from being One Body in you.

Let us remember that we are Resurrection people who place our trust in you.

Through Christ our Wounded Healer,
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: [Gentle Woman](#)

Show us wisdom; show us love.

CLOSING BLESSING

Let us end our time of retreat...united with Brother John Maganzini, OFM and the Franciscan Friars at Saint Anthony Shrine, by blessing one another. Raise your right hand and, together, let us virtually give this *Marian* Blessing:

Mary, Mother, we turn to You with full reliance on your presence with us this day.

We renew our faith and trust in your intercession that your beloved, Son, Jesus, will restore our JOY and our PEACE.

We turn to you, Mother of HOPE.

Open our hearts, even in difficult moments,
to feel your presence, "on the road of our
everyday lives."

Mary, we hope in You.

We pray this prayer
through Jesus, your Son...

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

AMEN

"Do Whatever He Tells You" RESOURCES:

WEDDING FEAST OF CANA IN MUSIC

Do Whatever He Tells You, Beautiful, Short Interpretation in Video and Song by Nick Cardilino

WEDDING FEAST OF CANA IN ART

An extensive commentary on many works of art depicting the Wedding Feast of Cana.

**You will receive a new email next Friday.
Please join your fellow
Emmaus Parent Companions
again next Saturday at 9:30am EDT**

**Until then, may God bless you and keep you.
Sending many warm, virtual hugs**

REMINDER

**If you would like to join our other virtual program...
LIVE Emmaus Ministry
Wednesday Evening
Virtual Gatherings at 8pm EDT**

**Continuing on Wednesday, May 6, 2020
Our Last LIVE Virtual Gathering with
Fr. Jurgen Lias, a beloved, inspirational
Emmaus Ministry Spiritual Leader since 2015.**

**IMPORTANT: You do [need to register](#)
for each week's Wednesday night event.**



c/o 194 Bishops Forest Drive Waltham, MA 02452
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[unsubscribe](#) | emfgp.org | info@emfgp.org | +1 800 919 9332