



Mass with Healing Prayers



April 30, 2026
St. Mary of the Mills Church



“I, the Lord, am your healer.” — Exodus 15:26



The TASTE Program

(Taste And See Take...Eat)

welcomes you to this sacred occasion and
we pray that you are filled with many blessings!

But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds,
declares the LORD, ~ Jeremiah 30:17

WE INVITE YOU TO FULLY ENGAGE — Mass is not intended to be a performance where we simply watch the priest pray. Rather we are called to fully enter into the Mass so that our minds and voices are one with our Creator's healing love. Please unite your heart and actively pray, sing, and rejoice in this outpouring of God's love.

WHO DOES THE HEALING? Concerning the Mass with healing prayers, the TASTE Program is simply providing the environment in which the Lord does the real work. It is not the priest, deacon, saint or prayer intercessor that heals anyone. It is the Lord.

CAUSE OF HEALING — In sacred scripture, God has brought about healing using a material object. The vehicle for the healing was the touching of that object. However, it is very important to note that the **cause** of the healing is God and the relics are a **means** through which He acts. Relics are not magic and do not contain a power that is their own; a power separate from God. Any good that comes through a relic is God's doing. But, the fact that God chooses to use the relics of Saints to work healing and miracles tells us that He wants to draw our attention to the Saints as "models and intercessors" (CCC 828).

PERSPECTIVES ON RELICS — "We do **not worship**, we do **not adore**, for fear that we should bow down to the creature rather than to the Creator, but we **venerate** the relics of the martyrs in order the better to adore Him whose martyrs they are." — St. Jerome

VENERATING RELICS — When venerating a relic, it is most appropriate to **show honor and respect** to the Saint by performing a simple exterior gesture. Piety is often expressed by kissing or touching the relic or simply standing near the relic in a prayerful attitude, raising one's heart and mind to God and invoking the intercession of the Saint. Other acceptable gestures: signing oneself with the sign of the cross or kneeling in front of the relic in prayer. Since we **do not worship or adore relics**, a person should not genuflect before the relic in a way similar to genuflecting before the Blessed Sacrament. Christ alone is reserved for that type of veneration.

STRIVE FOR SANCTITY — Relics remind us of the holiness of a Saint and his cooperation in God's work. At the same time, relics inspire us to ask for the prayers of that Saint and to beg the grace of God to live the same kind of faith-filled life. Venerating the relics of Saints is a beautiful practice that brings us close to those who walked before us in the sign of faith. They "ran the race" and reached the end goal of Heaven. Seeing their relics and touching them can incite in us a greater urgency to strive for sanctity so we can meet these holy men and women at the end of our time on earth.

Program

Gathering Song Prayer of St. Francis — #473

First Reading — Acts 13:13-25

Responsorial Psalm — Psalm 89:2-3, 21-22, 25, and 27
For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

Verse Before the Gospel — Revelation 1:5 ab
Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead,
you have loved us and freed us from our sins by your Blood.

Gospel — John 13:16-20

Prayer of the Faithful

Preparation of the Gifts Be Not Afraid — #439

Communion Song Amazing Grace— #447

Sending Song..... How Great Thou Art— #431



We have several relics for veneration and blessings. Following the Mass, a priest or deacon will come to each of you and give you a blessing. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be available to those who are seriously ill. Please see an usher if you are in need of anointing.

Please leave the pew in front of you open, sitting in every other row, so that the priest can individually bless you. The side pews, which hold two persons each, can be filled normally.

CLASSES OF RELICS

- Relics are physical objects that have direct association with Saints or our Lord.
- **1st class relics** — The body or fragments of the body of a Saint, such as pieces of bone or flesh.
- **2nd class relics** — Something that a Saint personally owned, such as a shirt or book (or fragments thereof).
- **3rd class relics** — Those items that a Saint touched or that have been touched to a first, second, or another third class relic of a Saint.

FIRST CLASS RELICS TO BE VENERATED

- St. Padre Pio— Crystallized blood from one of his stigmata wounds
- St. Francis of Assisi
- A reliquary containing relics of all 12 apostles and the True Cross
- A reliquary containing relics of St. Francis de Sales, St. Jane Frances de Chantal, and St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

RELICS USED TO PRAY OVER ATTENDEES

- We will have relics of St. Vincent Pallotti and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton which will be carried by the deacons and/or priests to bless people during their healing prayers.
- Additionally, Deacon Bob's Pouch of Relics include: St. Padre Pio, St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, St. Anthony of Padua, St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Blessed Solanus Casey, and Blessed Mother Mary Ann

Thank You

PRIESTS, DEACONS, ALTAR SERVERS — Special thanks to:

- Rev. Lawrence Swink (Celebrant), Rev. Marco Schad (Confessions)
- Deacon Bob Gignilliat (Prayers), Deacon Mike Sindall (Prayers)
- Jeremiah Drake (Altar Server)

SISTERS — We appreciate the the prayerful presence of the Pallottine Sisters who are interceding for everyone in attendance.

MUSIC MINISTRY — We are grateful to Molly Snyder for sharing her beautiful voice and Jeanette Wassell for her musical talent.

MOUNT DE SALES HIGH SCHOOL — Many of the relics used today are being loaned to the TASTE Program by them. The relic of St. Padre Pio was bequeathed to them by a benefactor who actually knew someone personally connected to St. Padre Pio. The other two reliquaries passed from the Visitation Sisters, who originally ran the school, to the Dominican Sisters who run it now. We are grateful to be able to borrow these precious relics.

TASTE SERVICE TEAM — For providing assistance as Ushers, Lectors, Sacristan, and Support with the Relics.

ALL — To all those present today, thank you for joining in this heavenly celebration! May God bless each of you!

The TASTE Program

All women are encouraged to join TASTE every Thursday morning from late September to early May to learn the Truths of our Faith!

- We have enriching speakers and relevant topics each week!
- The fellowship between members is amazing!
- Our homepage is: www.TasteProgram.com