



DIOCESE OF LANSING
M I C H I G A N

*“Behold, I stand at the door
and knock; if any one hears my
voice and opens the door,
I will come in to him and eat
with him, and he with me.”*

Book of Revelation 3:20



You may find it helpful to use the image of Jesus on this card as a focal point for your prayerful meditation. It's by the English artist William Holman Hunt (1827–1910) and portrays Christ knocking on an overgrown and long-unopened door. It represents our often-closed hearts and obstinate minds. You'll also note the door has no handle. It can only be opened from the inside.



Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Jesus Christ is the Light of the World (John 8:12). It is his divine light which illumines our path through the travails of life. It is his divine warmth that sustains us in times of sorrow. This has never been truer than over the past year as our communities have been afflicted by the COVID-19 pandemic. All have suffered. Many have been stricken by illness. Others have died. May they rest in peace.

As our country begins slowly to emerge from this tragedy, I invite you to draw closer still to Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. In fact, I invite you to Sunday Mass. If you have been away from Mass for a period of time, know this: We miss you. I miss you. Christ misses you.

After all, it is in Holy Mass that we reorient ourselves in right relationship with Almighty God. It is in Holy Mass that we encounter the Word of God, Jesus Christ, in Sacred Scripture. It is in Holy Mass that we encounter the Lamb of God, the same Jesus Christ, in the Holy Eucharist. It is also in Holy Mass that we encounter the Lord in His Mystical Body. And we do so in communion with our family, neighbors, and friends, both living and dead.

In order to help each of us to prepare prayerfully for our return, I give you a candle representing, the Light of the World, Jesus Christ. This candle burns for eight hours. May I suggest that we burn our candles for one hour each day during which we take a moment to spend time with our Lord Jesus Christ in prayer with the eight particular intentions set out opposite. Thank you. God bless you.

Assuring you of my prayers, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Paul Boyce*

Bishop of Lansing

AN OCTAVE OF PENTECOST

Prayer Intentions

Day One

For those who have died or lost a loved one
due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Day Two

For our young people who have experienced
social, emotional, and educational disruption.

Day Three

For each of us to receive the grace
to live abundantly in Christ.

Day Four

For those who have suffered and those
who care for the suffering.

Day Five

For the grace to be missionary disciples who
invite others into a living relationship with
the Lord and his Church.

Day Six

For those whose livelihoods have suffered
due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Day Seven

For our elderly who have experienced isolation.

Day Eight

For a renewed participation in the
sacramental life of the Church.