

Dear parishioners,

As we look forward with joy to the reopening of public Masses on Pentecost, please join Bishop Daniel Thomas and the faithful of Northwest Ohio in two exciting initiatives that begin on Friday, May 22, 2020.

The first is the **Novena to the Holy Spirit**. It is *the* original novena. After Jesus' Ascension into heaven, the disciples went to the upper room with the Blessed Virgin Mary to pray for nine days. This pattern of 9 days of prayer is the basis of the novenas we pray today. This year the novena is particularly poignant as we not only prepare for Pentecost, but for the long-awaited reopening of public Masses. Bishop Daniel Thomas recorded videos to lead us each day. You will be able to find them on social media each or at <http://reconnecttoledo.org/pentecost>.

The second is the **Red Ribbon Campaign**. To participate, simply tie a red ribbon on your front door, mailbox, a tree in your yard, etc. on May 22, the first day of the novena. The ribbon is a visible sign of excitement for the reopening of public Masses. Our goal is to cover Northwest Ohio with red ribbons!

I hope you will join me in participating in these two initiatives while we look forward to being together again soon.