

## PASTOR'S CORNER

### Plague Journal

*From week to week, as the Spirit moves me, I will share with you certain theological reflections concerning the liturgy and its relation to the times we're in.*

As we move back into Ordinary Time this week, I would like to ask you all to pray the following prayer each night before you retire. It comes from the monks of Mount Angel Abbey and is sung each night at the conclusion of Compline (Night Prayer). It is called the *Stella Caeli* (Star of Heaven) and was originally composed and sung during the 14<sup>th</sup> Century as a response to the Black Death (the Bubonic Plague). Covid 19 is not nearly as dangerous (thank God) as the Plague of that time; nonetheless people are fear ridden and over 108,000 have died in our country of the current pestilence:

**Star of Heaven,  
who nourished the Lord  
and uprooted the plague of death  
which our first parents planted:**

**May that star now deign  
to hold in check the constellations  
whose strife causes in people  
the sores of a terrible death.**

**O glorious star of the sea,  
save us from infections.**

**Hear us:  
for your Son, who honors you,  
denies you nothing.**

**Jesus, save us,  
for whom the Virgin Mother prays to you.**

**Amen.**