



March 13, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In this Sunday's second reading St. Paul writes:

"...we boast in hope of the Glory of God. And hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."

It is in the spirit of that "Wild Hope" that I write to you today. In the face of all the uncertainties the Coronavirus has brought on, it is now that our faith and hope in our good God is more essential than ever. With that in mind, I want to reassure you that our parish is doing all we can to keep you safe, while at Mass, in quiet prayer with the Blessed Sacrament, at school or faith formation, or just visiting the parish office. The regular Mass schedule continues this weekend.

Mass – Third Sunday of Lent

Saturday, March 14

5pm and 7pm (in Spanish)

Sunday, March 15

8am, 10am*, 12Noon and 5:30pm

**Interpreted for the Deaf*

LITURGY & MASS THIS WEEKEND

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we implemented last week the initial precautions, with Eucharist under one species, eliminating the holy water and receiving Communion in the hand, as well as not shaking hands or hugging at the beginning of Mass or during the sign of peace. Again, Bishop Noonan has made it clear that if you are sick, please know you are relieved from your Sunday obligation, and we encourage you to wash your hands frequently. Our Eucharistic ministers will continue to use the disinfectant wipes right before the distribution of Communion.

We continue to consider what additional actions we can do to keep all as safe as possible. Starting immediately, and for the foreseeable future, we will be wiping down hard surfaces in the church in-between all Masses. I would ask your assistance in this by please exiting as soon as Mass is ended so that our team can have access to the church and prepare for the next service. At the same time, we find it prudent to take a break from coffee and donuts after Mass.

One other change you will notice this week is offertory. First, as many of you have asked, we recently started Online Giving – convenient for your weekly giving or one-time donations. [See details below]

At Mass, as you enter the church, baskets for your weekly envelopes and donations will be placed inside the main church doors, inside the chapel and at the altar. Again, I thank you for the gifts shared so that we may continue bringing Christ to others.

AROUND THE PARISH UPDATES

Please know that Eucharistic Adoration will continue unabated, as will Stations of the Cross.

Our Parish Office remains open, but we will be modifying the hours of operation, Monday-Friday, 9am-Noon; 3-6:30pm. We encourage you to phone the parish with matters and questions that can be addressed in that way, as well as scheduling appointments with our staff. As with the church cleaning, we will be doing the same with the office and all spaces throughout the property after they are used for any meeting or activity.

Today the Knights have cancelled their Lenten Fish Dinner. We will let you know if they will start up again next week and of any other changes. Stay connected with us and encourage others to sign up for my email, check the parish website, and join us on our social channels.

By the way, our school starts an extended spring break this weekend – we wish all our families and school staff a safe and relaxing time.

As you know, we're in a situation none of us have been in before and things are changing day by day. It is our firm intention to get back to our normal way of being "church" just as soon as possible. In the meantime, let's be strength and prayerful support for one another, as you have always been, and let's keep faith in our good God.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Charlie". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Fr. Charlie, Pastor