

St. Mark's Catholic Church
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Dear Parishioners,

This is an unprecedented and very difficult time for all of us, as the lock down continues. Many of us may be out of work or are unable to engage in our normal daily activities. We may be anxious and afraid about our own health and that of our loved ones. Some of us may be worried about our financial situation, about our job or our economic future. This is a very scary time for all of us, but especially for the elderly and those like myself with underlying medical conditions.

Apart from the love of our families, the most important thing which we all have to help bring us through this difficult time is our faith, our belief in a very loving and caring God who has not abandoned us in our struggle. In this time of uncertainty, fear and anxiety we must believe that we are not alone, that the Lord God is still with us to help sustain, strengthen and support us in the midst of this epidemic, and to give us courage, hope and confidence for the future. We are called to believe in the Lord's continuous love and concern for each one of us.

I am very happy about the fact that we are now finally able to live stream Mass from here at St. Mark's. The daily Mass is at 11:00AM while the weekend Masses will be at 4:30PM on Saturdays and at 10:00AM on Sundays. The Mass of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated on Holy Thursday evening at 7:00 and the Good Friday ceremonies at 3:00PM, with an abbreviated Rite of the Easter Vigil Celebration on Saturday evening at 8:00, while Mass on Easter Sunday will be at 10:00AM. You just click a link on the parish website to access the live stream. The system has an archive which enables you to watch the Mass at a later date or time.

Some of you may have been furloughed or laid off from your job and you are no longer receiving a paycheck, while your expenses for utilities, mortgage and for food and clothing, etc. remain the same. The Church finds itself in a very similar position with cancellation of the public Masses. While our weekly income has taken a very serious hit, our expenses remain relatively unchanged. So if you are able to continue to support the Church financially, I would strongly encourage you to do so, by either mailing in your donation, dropping it off at the rectory, or by donating online with "Parish Giving". Anything that you can afford to give is greatly appreciated. We use our Easter collection to help pay some of our major expenses.

Both Fr. Jose and myself are keeping all of you in our thoughts and prayers, praying that the Lord will protect all of us against this insidious illness. This is a Lent and an Easter which we will always remember. But we must never forget the fact that Easter is at the end of the road to Calvary. So let us enter the tomb with our crucified Lord, knowing with "confident assurance and conviction" that the stone will be rolled back and the light will enter once more.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. Sean P. Flynn
Pastor