

St James Church

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March 18, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

The staff and I send our prayers during this unprecedented event in world history. Acknowledging the worry, fear, and anxiety that is all around us, let us pray to God and respond to our calling to be Christ in new ways for others. Acts of kindness and charity are more important than ever.

As we all know of Bishop Lucia's difficult decision to suspend, "all gatherings for Mass, prayer, Faith Formation and certain parish activities," we have accepted that for "the common good." Some may ask how do we move forward without the Eucharist? As one music minister pointed out to a friend who asked that same question, "we are the Eucharist; we are Christ to others." With that in mind, this is what God calls us to until we are together again.

During this time pray with your family, make use of websites for the daily scripture and for the Masses that are live streamed around the country, and pray privately. Remember not only your family, friends, neighbors, and fellow parishioners, but those suffering during the pandemic physically, emotionally, or economically. Pray as well for our scientists and the members of our medical community who are already working long hours to serve our needs. They are truly heroes.

For prayer and support, refer to our website for links to live streaming Masses and spiritual reflections. The chapel is open daily for prayer. In addition, continue to support our parish in whatever way you can.

Again, our prayers to you and your families. May we see these stressful times as an opportunity to draw closer to God and to each other.

Sincerely,

Father Kevin Corcoran