

**St. Andrew's of Norwood St. Patrick's of Brasher Falls  
Parish of the Visitation & St. Raymond's of Norfolk**

March 20, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

As you know, Bishop LaValley has suspended all weekend and daily Masses, devotions, faith formation classes, parish activities and meetings in every parish in our Diocese until further notice. During this time period the faithful are dispensed from their Sunday obligation to participate in Holy Mass. This action has been made to ensure that, as a Church, we do everything possible to protect the common good of our people and safeguard those most vulnerable to Covid-19.

I encourage you to participate in Mass on TV, on **EWTN**, channel 35; the Mass is offered every day at 8:00 am, 12 noon and 7:00 pm. Each *Sunday*, the 8:00am Mass at our Cathedral will be live streamed; this is the link: <https://www.rcdony.org/livemass> Bishop Robert Barron has daily Mass and the Stations of the Cross available online at the following links: <https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass>  
<https://stations.wordonfire.org>

I remain available to provide the Sacrament of the Sick and address other pastoral needs during this time; the best phone number for contacting me or leaving a message is 315-389-5401. Unfortunately, the Sacrament of Penance/Confessions will have to be by appointment for the time being. Until further notice, the Parish Office in *Brasher Falls* will be open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30am-11:30am; the Parish Office in *Norfolk* will be open from 9:00am-12noon Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Father Amyot and I will offer Mass in private; although you are unable to join us in person, please know that each of you and your families are faithfully held in our prayer. The Mass Intentions for each week will be listed on the Facebook page and/or Website of the parishes. At Brasher Falls, our custom of Eucharistic Adoration will continue on the designated days and times. Funerals will continue to be offered, but according to current State and Federal regulations, attendance will be limited to family members. During this time of uncertainty, I ask you to join me in prayer; I encourage the praying of the Rosary, private devotions, reading the Sacred Scriptures and offering up the inconveniences and struggles of these days for all those stricken by the virus, for all healthcare workers, for all in roles of leadership and for one another.

With our weekend Masses being cancelled, our regular source of income from the offertory collection is withdrawn. Everyone will be facing financial challenges. We will be very grateful to those who are able to maintain their support of our parishes by either mailing in or dropping their offertory envelope by the parish office. Those who are unable to financially support our parishes at this time, we understand. If we can be of help to you, please let us know.

These days require *strength*: strength of *faith*, strength of *hope* and strength of *love*. Thank you for your faithful participation in the life and future of our three parishes. *Jesus, I trust in You!*

Yours sincerely,



Father Garry B. Giroux