

PASTOR'S REPORT
VIRTUAL MEETING - June 2, 2020

1. With the help and guidance of the Finance Department of the Archdiocese, we were able to secure a loan from the Small Business Stimulus Act which will help us pay our rectory salaries for about 8 weeks as well as other approved expenses. It is anticipated that this loan will become a grant and will not have to be paid back. The Stimulus Act was designed to assist small businesses to continue to pay their employees.
2. Jim Corbett and I met with a representative of the Board of Elections and we will be hosting the Early Voting Procedures from June 11 until the Democratic Primary Day on June 23. The parish will benefit with a stipend for use of De Chantal Hall.
3. The Cardinal has sent the parishes a plan with 6 phases for gradually re-opening the church and the resumption of Masses. It looks like a 6 week program whenever we officially begin. The Archdiocese will be sending each parish materials for the "re-opening" process. We will have to organize volunteers for seating, cleaning, preparing the church for daily use, communion reception, the offertory collection, etc. On our part, it will require organization and planning and there is no doubt that our parishioners will be eager to help and make it happen!
4. 20 burial services have been held at St. Raymond's Cemetery since the middle of March. In most cases, there was also a brief service in the funeral home prior to the burial. Special appreciation is extended to the staffs of the funeral homes and the Cemetery for their outreach to our grieving families. What really can be said to thank our medical professionals, transit workers, civil servants, grocery clerks and delivery services for going above and beyond! May God bless.
5. It must be mentioned that the support of the parish in the weekly contributions has been exceptional. Our gratitude to all who continue to use the envelopes and the WESHARE PROGRAM. Again, thank you.
6. A Blood Drive has been scheduled for June 25 and Life Screening Services will be here on August 5. Both organizations will follow the guidelines for safely operating in this virus age.
7. Father Stephen has completed his Master's Degree at Fordham. He is presently stationed in Scranton; Father Robert has successfully completed several courses at St. John's with "A's"; Father Ricardo is working with Sean to livestream a Spanish Rosary Service. Many thanks to Monique and Sean who are keeping us well-formed with the bulletin and the website. Great jobs!