

A WORD FROM FR. LEWIS ...

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JMJ

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Dear Fellow Saints-in-the-making,

Greetings in Christ!

I MISS YOU!

Hoping you are all well and healthy, both physically and spiritually, know that I am praying for you, for this time away from one another as a parish and time away from the Eucharist has many of us feeling what we hear in today's Psalm: that we are walking in the dark valley. But, as the Psalmist sings, even though we do, we are to fear no evil. Why? Because God is at our side. He gives us courage.

There is much that is trying to make us be afraid. That is the devil's strategy, because fear diverts our attention from trusting wholeheartedly in God as children do. Let us fear no evil, including the Corona virus, for God is at our side, and God's strategy is that perfect love casts out all fear (1 John 4:18).

As your shepherd and like the Good Shepherd, I am endeavoring to bring you to the verdant pastures and restful waters of our Savior Jesus Christ by following Pope Francis' and Bishop Malooly's encouragement to bring you the Mass and the Sacraments in creative ways. Here are some of them:

"Godcast with Father Lewis" may be found on YouTube.com. For the foreseeable future, I will upload the Mass of the day every day so that we might remain connected to God, to the holy sacrifice of the Mass, to the mysteries of our salvation, to the Church and to one another.

On that same "Godcast," you will find a video for Eucharistic Adoration you can do at home for as long as you like, as well as find a video for the Stations of the Cross to pray at home and as a family.

Also, as Lent is a penitential season, the Sacrament of Reconciliation strengthens us to grow in the life of grace. I will be hearing confessions outside and with appropriate "distance" Tuesday through Friday from 11AM to Noon on Fourth Street in front of the parish hall. Please pull up to the hall with the car facing Central Avenue and the driver's side facing the hall and remain in your car for Confessions.

Together, let us pray for an end to the virus and its effects on the world and therefore to the beginning of a renewed hope in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

May God bless you always.

Fr. Lewis

OTHER NEWS FROM THE PARISH OFFICE

FOOD COLLECTION BAGS

Since we will not be having Masses this weekend, please hold your food bags until further notice. Perhaps you have not yet even had the opportunity to fill your bag with non-perishable items for the Samaritan House due to all of the bare shelves at the grocery stores over the past 7-10 days. Once Masses resume, we will let you know when to return your bags so that we can deliver them and help re-stock the pantry shelves.

CHOCOLATE EGG SALES

Peanut butter, coconut cream and buttercream-filled eggs will be available for sale at the Parish Hall this Saturday, March 21 from 11am-1pm. Cost is \$3 per egg. All proceeds will benefit the Youth Ministry.