

St. John's Parish Bulletin
March 29, 2020

We received the following notice earlier this week:

Holy Week in a Time of Pandemic

Having carefully considered the advice of medical experts and public health officials, Bishop McManus has decided the following concerning the Liturgies of Holy Week:

- 1. Bishop McManus will celebrate the Chrism Mass without the participation of the presbyterate or the faithful. Holy oils will be distributed at a later date, once the present restrictions have been lifted.*
- 2. The Bishop urges Priests to celebrate the Mass of Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord and the full course of the Liturgies of the Sacred Paschal Triduum in their locked churches, but without the participation of the faithful. Priests and deacons resident in each parish should take part in these Liturgies. The total number of ministers, lay and ordained, participating in each liturgical celebration should not exceed ten.*
- 3. The time of these liturgies should be advertised widely in order that the faithful might participate spiritually from their homes or even view the parish Liturgy by streaming video, or to watch liturgies celebrated by Bishop McManus via internet or TV. If parishioners are unable to watch the Liturgies online, resources by which they might be one with the prayer of the Church from their homes will be forthcoming from the Office for Divine Worship.*

Music has an essential role in all of the Liturgies of the Sacred Paschal Triduum. The total number of ministers, lay and ordained, should be strictly limited to ten in order to promote social distancing.

The Office for Divine Worship will provide additional rubrical resources for preparing for the feasts of Holy Week in the coming days.

None of us are surprised by this prudent, wise and heartbreaking decision. In response we have established the following schedule here at St. John's:

SUNDAY, APRIL 5 - PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION AT 11:00 A.M.

THURSDAY, APRIL 9 - CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT 7 P.M.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10 - COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION AT 3 P.M.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11 - THE EASTER VIGIL AT 7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12 - EASTER SUNDAY AT 11 A.M.

Our plan is to live stream these celebrations. We would also like to be able to distribute the palms, to offer Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and, perhaps, confession. All of this, of course, must take place outside and while practicing social distancing. Not easy. Be sure to check the parish website and Flocknotes for further information, details and instructions.

READINGS FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT:

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Psalm 130

Romans 8:8-11

John 11:1-45

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY offers prayers and condolences to the family and friends of Emily Rondeau Clemons, John Dowd, Michael Jigarjian and Constance Eagan who have been born into eternal life.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT:

Income: Sunday- \$1277.16, Parking- \$35.00, School Rent- \$4833.72, Novena-\$35.00

Total- \$6180.88

Expenses: Schola (121.60) Administration (3778.07) Office (349.71) Church Gas (875.99) Rectory Gas (1149.85) Ascension Gas (1308.04) Maintenance (392.81) Alarm (102.90) Marriage Prep (27.50) Postage Supplies (557.94) Preserve the Flame (702.00)

Total - \$9366.41

Food for the Poor: \$250 IMO Ann Sullivan, \$100, \$500, \$50, \$300, \$30, \$100, \$50, \$50, \$20, \$1,000 from a friend, \$20 IMO Shirley Pace, \$185 IMO Ann Killoran, \$50 IMO John Trumpaitis, \$160 IMO Carol Doyle, \$50 IMO Philip Powers, \$25 IMO Elaine Pierce, \$100 IMO Deborah Shea, \$50 IMO Christopher and Patrick Johnson

Income- \$9085.00 Expenses-\$5696.34

Partners in Charity - \$21, 145.00

We are feeling the impact of the pandemic in a variety of ways, of course. We understand that high up on that list for many of us is the economic impact. We are grateful to those who have mailed in your donation envelopes. We are not surprised; the people of St. John's are famous for your generosity. We are grateful for whatever can be done to continue to support our mission. Likewise, we ask that in this Lenten season you continue to remember the international work of Catholic Relief Services' Rice Bowls and the local life-giving and loving mission of Visitation House through the Baby Bottles campaign. Thank you.

2020 CENSUS – recently we have heard from the Census Bureau a couple of times. Their mission is greatly hampered by the Coronavirus pandemic. We felt it important to encourage everyone to complete a census form. It can be done online or through the mail. As you know, the census is important in terms of receiving government services and other programs. Thank you.

ST. JOHN'S PARISH SURVEY 2020 is ongoing. Thank you to the many parishioners who have completed the survey. The initial deadline for completing one was this past Friday, March 27th. However, given the givens, we are extending the deadline to allow more of you to complete the survey. There is a link of the parish website. This will be an important tool for us when we return to what passes for normal on Temple Street. Thank you.

FLOCKNOTES is a tremendous tool for communicating with you. It is an enormous help in keeping us together during this period of physical distance. It will continue to be important when this too shall pass. Perhaps you are reading this on Flocknotes, already. If not, if you are seeing this on the parish website only, please join the parish's Flocknote group. All the cool people are doing it!