

Reflections of the Rector



Dear brothers and sisters,

Not too long ago I saw a meme which depicted the devil telling God how he had managed to close all churches, but God replied that on the contrary, now He had opened a church in every home. Memes are generally not a reliable source of information, but at least in this case there was some truth. While God did not open a church at every home because of the coronavirus, it has made us talk more about what the Catholic Church has been teaching for awhile, that each family, each home, is a domestic church or *Ecclesia domestica*, as it was called in the Post-Conciliar Dogmatic Constitution *Lumen Gentium*. (Cfr. LG 11)

The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains that, "It is here that the father of the family, the mother, children, and all members of the family exercise the *priesthood of the baptized* in a privileged way "by the reception of the sacraments, prayer and thanksgiving, the witness of a holy life, and self-denial and active charity." Thus the home is the first school of Christian life and "a school for human enrichment." Here one learns endurance and the joy of work, fraternal love, generous - even repeated - forgiveness, and above all divine worship in prayer and the offering of one's life." (CCC 1657) This, of course, does not exclude single persons, of whom the Catechism says, "The doors of homes, the "domestic churches," and of the great family which is the Church must be open to all of them. "No one is without a family in this world: the Church is a home and family for everyone, especially those who 'labor and are heavy laden.'"" (CCC 1658)

My brothers and sisters, now that you are not able to join in our sacramental celebrations, you are still able to exercise the priesthood of the baptized, in which we all share. You can do it especially through sacramentals, prayer, and by uniting your intentions to the priests' when we celebrate our Masses (even if you don't watch them on social media). Please, do not stop making the Sabbath holy, do not stop praying as a family especially on Sundays. I encourage you to find the readings for each Sunday, read them as family, and reflect on them. I also encourage you to pray the rosary, litanies, and other devotions. St. Boniface, St. Joseph, and the Cathedral churches might not be open, but the churches at your homes are.

Please be assured of my prayers. I cannot wait for the day we can reopen our doors and pray together.

Your brother in Christ, Fr. David Esquiliano

From the Finance Board

March 2020

Three fourths of the way through the Cathedral's financial fiscal year, we see a continued trend of the administrative staff holding expenses in check to match income being brought in. Expenses are below the YTD budget in many areas highlighted by open positions not being filled as well as a large remaining balance left in the parish's Heelan assessment. These expenses do not simply disappear and must be dealt with. All Sioux City parishes have agreed to bring in outside consulting to assist in building a sustainable platform to offset rising expenses.

Overall giving in envelopes and loose offerings were up for the previous month and are tracking slightly ahead of budget year to date. Our sincere thanks go out to all for their giving. We especially thank those who have signed up for Direct Deposit. The parish ceases to exist without your continued donations. In these difficult times where many businesses have been temporarily shut down and more importantly the Eucharist has not been made available, we implore you to pray including an act of spiritual communion, fast, read the bible, and support your parish.

We ask that you pray for your families, your business, our priests and our parish that we can weather this storm and be drawn closer to God by trusting that He holds the answers in these trying times. Since it is not possible to physically receive the body and blood of Jesus, frequently pray an act of spiritual communion. We thank our priests for live-streaming the Mass on a daily basis.

We ask you to fast. Even though lent is over, continue to fast. One of the benefits of mortifying our bodies through fasting builds a sense of gratitude for the innumerable blessings God bestows on us each and every day.

While many are spending more time at home in the current state, take the time to read the bible. Meditate on its message. Listen to God speaking to you through the scriptures.

And yes we ask you to continue to support your parish, especially in this most difficult time. But most importantly we ask you to take care of yourselves spiritually. We hear often the words "stay safe" which are implied to stay safe from the corona virus. We ask that through prayer, communion, fasting and meditation, you take care of your spiritual self. This in turn will provide you the path to support your parish. The effects of your spiritual well-being bring forth a parish that will thrive not only on the balance sheet, but more importantly in the spirituality of the broader parish community.

God Bless, The Finance Council



Sacred Music

A Dominican priest friend of mine described this past season of Lent as “the Lent-iest of Lents.” No doubt we’ve all had to make major concessions in our daily lives to help slow the spread of this disease. If you were able to watch the live-stream of our Easter Vigil mass on Facebook you might have noticed there were more readings than in years past. The Church assigns 7 readings from the Old Testament, an Epistle reading, and the Gospel reading for a total of 9 readings. The Church also has assigned psalms after each of the 7 Old Testament and Epistle lessons. Singing the psalms is a great thing—when there’s a congregation present! Fortunately, the Church also gives the option of singing Canticles after each of the Old Testament lessons. These Canticles are akin to the Gradual that is sung after the 1st reading in the Extraordinary Form. Simply put, they are psalms or other scripture passages that are sung

straight through instead of a verse/refrain style we typically experience at mass. The final psalm at the Easter vigil has just a one-word refrain: Alleluia!

Alleluia is our quintessential Easter word. It occurs first scripturally in Tobit's Song of Praise: "The gates of Jerusalem shall sing hymns of gladness, and all her houses shall cry out, 'Alleluia!'" [Tobit 13:18]. Many of the Psalms of praise contain "Alleluia" at the beginning and/or the end. It is sung frequently in Saint John's vision of divine worship as found in the book of Revelation.

The word, stemming from Hebrew roots, translates as "Praise [*hallel*] Yahweh [*IA*]." While its liturgical use is not exclusive to Eastertide, its abundance makes it an **Easter** word beyond all others. *Alleluia* is found in most of the Easter season antiphons of the Liturgy of the Hours. It is added to the deacon's dismissal from the Great Easter Vigil Mass through the weekdays to Divine Mercy Sunday, and also to the dismissal at all Pentecost Masses [Vigil and Day]. In either single or double form, it concludes all the Propers of Eastertide [Introit, Offertory, Communion].

And finally, all of our Cathedral musicians look forward to joining with you in singing God’s praises again in one voice of worship.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Matthew Geerlings
Director of Sacred Music

<i>The Financial Corner</i>		
<u>INCOME</u>	Mar-20	
Weekly Offerings	\$	50,706.00
Loose Offerings	\$	11,692.56
Programming Support	\$	8,379.33
Other Income	\$	11,368.01
Total Parish Income	\$	82,145.90
<u>EXPENSE</u>		
Salaries and Wages	\$	34,194.95
Administrative Expenses	\$	4,291.83
Ministry Expenses	\$	14,838.51
Utility Bills & Repairs	\$	19,719.56
Assessments	\$	7,705.00
Other Expenses	\$	2,524.54
Total Expenses	\$	83,274.39
Net Income for Oct.	\$	(1,128.49)
BHCS Assessment Unpaid	\$	135,000.00

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Faith and Sacramental Formation



Reading the monthly bulletin for Adults of the program “Protecting the Children of God”, I was very struck by something that writer Crispin Ketchum Montelione said that there is another type of “pandemic” and that many times we overlook it and do not we give it due importance.

It seemed very appropriate to share it with all of you, we are certainly living in a time of chaos and despair not knowing what future awaits us. The theme of the article is “**Look for the helpers. We are the helpers!**” Which we will read in two parts since it is a bit extensive.

The world feels like a scary place right now. We are in the midst of a world-wide pandemic that is affecting each one of us in some way. The majority of us are currently physically restricted, many are quarantined, and some of us are experiencing losses of loved ones. Almost all of us are reacting in ways that show we are afraid and justifiably worried—even those of us who are seasoned against what life can throw our way.

A simple definition of a "pandemic" is "an outbreak of a disease that occurs over a wide geographic area and affects an exceptionally high proportion of the population" (Merriam-Webster). The word pandemic is typically reserved for situations involving infectious disease or sickness.

There is also another type of "pandemic" that befalls, and threatens, an extremely high proportion of our worldwide population: child sexual abuse. In fact, in 2017, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared (1*) that child sexual abuse was a major global health concern. More than 40 million people are living with a history of child sexual abuse. It happens in every environment imaginable, and especially behind closed doors and unmonitored environments. It is done by people we love and trust. Little ones are forced to become survivors at the youngest of ages because of the action, and inaction, of others. It's a worldwide pandemic that affects everyone, and children most of all—and it isn't fair for them.

During safe environment sessions where participants learn more about the reality of child sexual abuse, the facilitator asks the group about their reactions. Besides anger, the most common response is typically "fear" or "worry." These are normal reactions, and understandable. But, why is it, overwhelmingly, that adults respond to the subject of child sexual abuse with fear?

We react with fear, with anxiety, with worry—all because we sometimes feel helpless when confronted with this subject. During the training, we quickly page through a mental rolodex of all the situations in our lives involving children, our own or others', thinking back to those moments that made us feel like something was off, or when alarms were raised. And then, we begin to fear our judgment, and that an abuser could be anyone, that we don't know whom to look for, how to stop abuse from continuing, how to evaluate whether it's already happening to the children in our care—the list can be extensive, and exhausting—even paralyzing.

(1*)World Health Organization. Responding to children and Adolescents Who Have Been Sexually Abused - WHO Clinical Guidelines. 2017. Retrieved March 2020 from: <https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/259270/9789241550147-eng.pdf>

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In Christ Our Savior

Santa Fernandez

Director of Faith and Sacramental Formation

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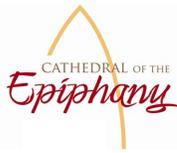
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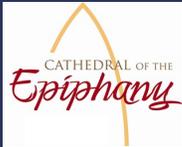
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Cathedral of the Epiphany

1000 Douglas Street, Sioux City, Iowa 51105

May 2020

Very Rev. J. David Esquiliano, JCL Rector

Rev. Jeremy Wind, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Mauro Sanchez, Parochial Vicar

Very Rev. Bradley Pelzel, V.G., In-Residence

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EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

TUESDAY 5:30p-6:30pm St. Joseph
MONDAY-SUNDAY 24 Hour
Adoration Chapel-Epiphany Center

MASS SCHEDULE

MON.-FRI. 12:00 pm Cathedral *English*
5:30 pm Cathedral *Spanish*

SATURDAY: 4:00 pm St. Boniface *English*
6:00 pm Cathedral *Spanish*

SUNDAY: 8:30 am Cathedral *Latin*
8:30 am St. Joseph *English*
10:00 am Cathedral *English*
10:30 am St. Boniface *Spanish*
12:00 pm Cathedral *Spanish*
12:30 pm St. Joseph *Vietnamese*
1:30 pm Cathedral *Spanish*

MASSES HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

Anticipated / Vigil

5:30 p.m. St. Boniface (English)

5:30 p.m. Cathedral (Spanish)

On the Day of the Solemnity

7:00 a.m. St. Joseph (English)

12:00 p.m. Cathedral (English)

5:30 p.m. Cathedral (Spanish)

MASS CIVIL HOLIDAYS

9:00am Cathedral (Bilingual)

CONFESSIONS

SUNDAY 8:00a- 8:30a St Joseph

MONDAY 4:30p -5:30p Cathedral

TUESDAY 4:30p -5:30p Cathedral

WEDNESDAY 4:30p-5:30p Cathedral

THURSDAY 4:30p-5:30p Cathedral

FRIDAY 11:30a -12:00p Cathedral

4:30p to 5:30p Cathedral

SATURDAY 3:00p to 4:00p St. Boniface

5:00p to 6:00p Cathedral