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St. John Vianney Catholic Church

"I will show you the way to heaven."
– St. John Vianney



March 17, 2020

SJV Newsletter – Coronavirus II

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This is an unprecedented time due to COVID-19! This is a moment for us to rely upon the love of God and know that there is not a sickness, disease or virus that can keep you from the love of God. This is an opportunity to live the faith at home and to allow God's many graces to penetrate your everyday actions.

The bishops of Indiana, including our bishop, Timothy Doherty, have made some directives for the parishes today in response to the spread of the COVID-19 virus. He has mandated the suspension of all public celebrations of the Mass, other liturgical services and gatherings of the faithful effective Wednesday, March 18, 2020 until further notice. The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass from March 13, 2020 continues until further notice. It is not a permanent dispensation. You can read his statement and directives by going to: <https://www.dol-in.org/response-to-current-news-events>

Following the directives of the bishop, with a saddened heart I inform you that St. John Vianney Catholic Church is closed until further notice. However, the closing of a building does not keep us from practicing the faith. There are many avenues for you to receive support and join others in prayer.

- **Online Resources**

- Bishop Barron through the Word on Fire institute will be offering daily Mass which is available online. You can join him or Word on Fire CEO Fr. Steve Grunow at <https://wordonfire.org/daily-mass>.
- You can also access Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) and listen to their daily Masses, prayers, or shows online for free at www.ewtn.com
- Bishop Doherty will offer the Sunday Mass at 8am which will be livestreamed online at <http://churchoftheblessedsacrament.yourstreamlive.com>
- If you haven't logged into www.formed.org yet, now is a great time to do so. St. John Vianney Catholic Church has a subscription. You can use this code to login for FREE: **TYRDMZ**. There are many helpful resources at formed.org for you to use whether they be movies, books, bible studies or talks.
- You can pray the Stations of the Cross on Friday by accessing a booklet available [HERE](#).

Making a daily act of Spiritual Communion can be very fruitful. The following is an example given by Bishop Doherty, *"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen."*

I encourage you to pray the rosary, read daily scriptures or other devotional books. This is especially good if you don't have internet access.

Decisions about celebrations during Holy Week and other liturgical items will be made in the coming days.

As always, if there is a life-threatening situation and you need a priest for the reception of the sacrament, you can call the parish office and click the extension to reach Fr. Tony Rowland.

Finally, please continue to pray for all those affected by the coronavirus. Let us pray for our brothers and sisters here in Indiana, for those around the world who are sick and for those who have lost loved ones due to this virus. May God console them and grant them peace. Let us also pray for all doctors, nurses, caregivers, public health officials and civic leaders. May God grant them courage and prudence as they seek to respond with compassion and in service to the common good. Together may we seek and receive the maternal intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe:

*Holy Virgin of Guadalupe,
Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas.
We fly to you today as your beloved children.
We ask you to intercede for us with your Son,
as you did at the wedding in Cana.*

*Pray for us, loving Mother,
and gain for our nation and world,
and for all our families and loved ones,
the protection of your holy angels,
that we may be spared the worst of this illness.*

*For those already afflicted,
we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance.
Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful,
wipe away their tears and help them to trust.*

*In this time of trial and testing,
teach all of us in the Church to love one another and to be patient and kind.
Help us to bring the peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.*

*We come to you with confidence,
knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother,
health of the sick and cause of our joy.*

*Shelter us under the mantle of your protection,
keep us in the embrace of your arms,
help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus.
Amen.*

In Christ,
Fr. Tony Rowland

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