

Changes at Mary, Mother of the Church in light of COVID-19

In response to recommendations from the Archdiocese of St. Louis and local leaders concerning the coronavirus pandemic, the following changes are being implemented here at Mary, Mother of the Church. We ask for your cooperation and understanding as we make these difficult decisions, all with the intent of keeping you safe from infection.

***Unless otherwise stated, all changes are effective immediately.
The date to resume normal activities has yet to be determined.***

Both weekday and weekend Masses are being live streamed

The live stream can be found on our website at <https://www.marymother.org/live-stream-of-our-mass>, or on YouTube (search for "Mary Mother of the Church STL").

Currently, our live stream schedule is:

8:30am Mass Monday through **Friday**
4:30 pm Saturday
9:00am Sunday
11am Sunday (re-broadcast of 9:00am Mass).

What has been canceled:

6:30 am Communion Services
8:30 am Saturday morning Mass

For the time being, everyone is dispensed from the obligation to physically participate in the Sunday Eucharist. Instead, you are encouraged to watch the Eucharist on our live stream.

Mass Intentions

With the cancellation of our public Masses, all previously scheduled Mass Intentions will be rescheduled to a new date, once Masses resume. If you had requested a specific date between March 17 and April 5, please contact Linda in the office to find out when your intention will be rescheduled.

Eucharistic Adoration

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament has been suspended.

You are invited to come to church for private prayer during regular business hours.

(9am-5pm Monday-Thursday, 9am-4pm Friday.) Please enter through the doors by the Parish Office.

Lenten Reconciliation Service on March 31st

There will not be a communal dimension to the Reconciliation service, as is our normal practice. We are still waiting to finalize our decision on if and how confessors will be available that evening.

Parish Office will close at 5pm Monday-Thursday, 4pm Friday

There will not be a student worker for weeknights or Saturday mornings.

All meetings, exercise programs, and athletic activities are suspended

This includes:

Men's Basketball, Pickleball, Tai Chi, Yoga, and Zumba Gold, TOPS, and GriefShare.

Choir Practices are suspended.

Prayer Groups are asked to suspend their onsite meetings at Mary, Mother of the Church until further notice.

Parish meetings should be held as e-meetings (email, skype, facetime) or conference calls.

If a group has a **compelling** reason to meet in person, you must first coordinate this with the office in order to get access to the building.

Gatherings larger than 50 are postponed

Life in the Spirit Seminar will be rescheduled for a later time.

Bread for the World Letter Signing will be rescheduled for a later time.

Youth Group Pancake Breakfast will be rescheduled for a later time.

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Changes at Mary, Mother of the Church in light of COVID-19 (cont'd)

PSR program to be suspended until further notice. PSR families will be receive communications directly from Mr. Lewandowski regarding both the date PSR will resume, and any other changes to our PSR program due to the COVID-19 virus. Information on the status of First Communion and Confirmation will be forthcoming as soon as those decisions are made.

Youth Group

Clare, Mark, and Lisa will reach out to youth. Youth Nights/Prayer Group may be done as Zoom Meetings.

St Vincent de Paul - "BLUE BIN" on the parking lot

SVDP has suspended pickup of the blue bins. Please hold any donations until such time as pickups resume.

Parish Council Election – available online

With Masses cancelled, and with the Parish Council election in process, we have come up with an online option to allow you to vote. A Flocknote will be sent to parishioners, which will allow you to view the candidate bios and vote for four (4) of the adult candidates. *Voting will be once per electronic device; voting will end March 29th at 11:59pm. Returned paper ballots will also be counted.*

Your Ongoing Financial Support

To the Parish

Your sacrificial offering to the parish is essential to allow the continue operation of our parish and its mission. We encourage you to use Faith Direct online giving, drop-off or mail your contributions.

To our Ministry Partners

St Vincent de Paul - Our *St Vincent de Paul* conference at Mary, Mother of the Church relies on your generosity to serve the needy of our community. The SVDP reserves are low and they need your help! With the COVID-19 virus impacting us all, and with no public Masses scheduled, we invite you to donate directly to SVDP. You can mail a check payable to "St Vincent de Paul " to the parish at 5901 Kerth Rd. **OR** you can donate electronically using Faith Direct (text-to-give: **(314) 207-3836**). **Thank you for your generosity!**

Bridge Bread - with the suspension of our monthly Bridge Bread weekends, and many others around the community, Bridge Bread is in dire need of your support... Consider making a financial donation directly to Bridge Bread at the address below, **OR** you can donate electronically using Faith Direct (text-to-give: **(314) 207-3836**).

**Bridge Bread Bakery
2639 Cherokee Street
St. Louis, MO 63118**

Room at the Inn - The coordinators of the Room at the Inn program will not be sending their clients to be our guests while the COVID19 pandemic is active. This means Room at the Inn houses them at their office location. This incurs added costs for Room at the Inn to house their clients. You can make a donation directly to Room at the Inn at the address below Make check payable **Sisters of Divine Providence**, **OR** you can donate electronically using Faith Direct (text-to-give: **(314) 207-3836**).

**Sisters of Divine Providence/Room at the Inn
Attn: Mary Kaminski
3415 Bridgeland Dr
Bridgeton, MO 63044**

Need Assistance???

This is an unprecedented time for all of us. Most important for all is to follow the instructions of our leaders and stay home as much as possible; practicing good hygiene and frequent sanitizing of high-touch areas. If you are unable or uncertain about going out, and you need food or supplies, please contact the office. Resources are available to meet most needs. We will do all in our power to assist you.