

St. Lawrence Parish Community  
1 East Union St. Goffstown, NH 03045

Dear Parishioners,

In these times of uncertainty, I write to assure you that I am praying the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the daily Office of Readings, lectio divina prayer, for you, your families, and the whole community. I am in contact with Deacon Geoff, Sue Nault, Gerry and Jocelyn Bergeron, and the rest of the staff on a regular basis, and I know that they are with me in great concern for all of us.

In this time of isolation and anxiety over the COVID-19 virus, I encourage you to pray. I am reminded of the story in Sacred Scripture when the Disciples were at sea during a storm. Jesus was asleep in the boat as it tossed about in the wind and waves. They woke Him, and asked Him, "Do you not care that we are perishing?" To which, Jesus rebuked the wind and quieted the waves to where there was a great calm. Then Jesus asked His Disciples, "Why are you afraid? Where is your Faith?"

Jesus can not only calm our fears, but He can calm "the storm." Jesus is the answer to everything. Take this opportunity to grow in Faith. I ask you, what usually keeps us from praying, during our normal daily routine in life? "We are too busy!" Is the answer. Life gets in the way. Well, here is a time when we can focus, and go to our inner room, close the door, and pray. Or perhaps pray together as a family. I encourage you to utilize EWTN, CatholicTV and/or the internet for daily Mass, rosary and Stations of the Cross.

Some have asked about giving, even though the operations and administration of the parish are limited, our bills still need to be paid. We encourage all of you to consider online giving. Online giving will really help our parish right now. St. Lawrence offers online donations, directly from the website [www.stlawrencegoffstown.org](http://www.stlawrencegoffstown.org) via a company called Vanco. You can easily make a secure donation via a Checking/Savings Account, or even on a credit card. For envelope users, you may drop them off at the office mail slot or mail them in. As always, thank you for your support, especially now.

I miss you. Mass is not the same prayed alone. Deacon Geoff, when I asked if he would like to serve with me at the Altar during this time, said humbly, "*No, I would rather be with the community in fasting from the Holy Eucharist*". I thought it important, that you knew.

Thank you for your continued generosity, prayers, and participation in the ministry and mission of St. Lawrence Church. Your efforts make so many things possible for our parish, community, and Church.

Please pray for one another as I am for you. Take heart in Jesus' promise: "do not be afraid, I am with you always." He is within our hearts, speak to Him.

If you have concerns or questions about anything spiritual, Deacon Geoff and I are always available, please send us an e-mail.

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God Love you, and bless you,  
Fr. David