



Dec. 15, 2020

ST. PAUL CATHEDRAL

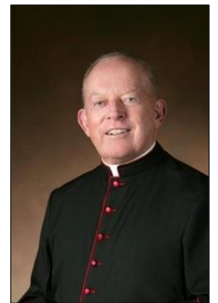
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My Dear Parishioners:

As we approach the great season of Christmas and Epiphany I wish to keep you informed as best I can for the upcoming celebrations of this coming season of beauty and grace for our parish family of faith.



1. First of all we encourage you to spiritually prepare through Reconciliation, the great Sacrament of Penance and healing. Besides separately scheduled confessions 4-5PM Saturday, we only have one more opportunity to receive this wonderful Sacrament before Christmas, Tuesday 6:00-7:00PM. Take advantage of this gift of God for forgiveness and mercy!
2. A LAST CALL FOR HELP FOR DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS! This Saturday, December 19th at 9:00AM here in the Cathedral Church. Thanks in advance for your assistance.
3. LAST ADVENT SUNG EVENING PRAYER this Monday at 5:30PM here. A time-out from the stress for a half hour of prayer, song and a wonderful preparation for Christmas.
4. **Christmas Schedule of Masses:**
 - A. Thursday, December 24th, Christmas Eve Family Mass at 4:00 and 5:30PM Solemn Mass of Christmas with Bishop Tyson at 9:00PM
 - B. Friday, December 25th, Christmas Day Masses at 7, 9, and 11:00AM and 1:00PM (Spanish). NO EVENING OR LIFE TEEN MASS. Masks must be worn and Social Distancing observed.
5. **Feast of the Holy Family:** Sunday, December 27th. Usual Weekend Schedule-Saturday 5:30PM & 7:00PM (Spanish); Sunday 7:00, 9:00, 11:00AM, 1:00PM (Spanish) and 7:00PM Life Teen. Renewal of Marriage Vows and Dedication of Families at all Masses.
6. **New Years Day, Feast of Mary Mother of God and the World:** Day of prayer for peace, Friday January 1. Masses for this Holy day: Thursday December 31st 5:30pm and Friday at 9:00am, 11:00am and 1:00pm (Spanish). No evening mass. Please remember that Bishop Tyson's Dispensation from the obligation of participating at Sunday and Holy Day Masses is still in effect. Also only 150 persons in the Cathedral for each Mass.

7. Mass for Parents and Families who have lost children: Monday, December 28th Feast of the Holy Innocents at 5:30PM in our Cathedral. It is a time to remember, uplift, rejoice and pray for these children and their families. All are invited!

8. Feast of the Epiphany: Sunday, January 3rd usual weekend schedule (Sorry to say, but no Epiphany Party this year).

9. This Christmas Season will also be different because of COVID. No opportunities to gather for large family celebrations, a limit to participants at Mass. (Why not plan to join us for weekday Masses Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday: December 28, 29, 30 & 31st at 11:00AM to avoid the Christmas crowd on the day or eve itself.)

May we be mindful of one another as we observe the restrictions imposed because of the Virus. Bishop Tyson, Msgr. Siler and Fathers Mariscal and Mitchell as well as our parish staff, to whom we owe so much, join me in wishing you all the joys of Christmas and blessings of the New Year. May God keep you all in the palm of His hand, free from illness and close to Him always.

Devotedly In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John A. Ecker".

Rev. Msgr. John A. Ecker-VG
Pastor

P.S. Enclosed: A parish calendar, prayer booklet and a “Catholic Update”.