



THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

March 21, 2020

Hello Everyone,

This is certainly going to be a Lent and Easter that we will never forget! As we continue forward in the midst of this crisis, I want to give everyone an update from us here at St. Mark.

First, I want to let you know what our parish has done in the last few days to engage our charitable outreach for those most affected by this situation. Our ministry for seniors (the MMA) has been tirelessly reaching out to our elderly and homebound parishioners by phone. They are being checked on, and their needs are being assessed. If the need for supplies is found, it is being reported and turned over to our Men's Club. They have put together a list of "runners" who can go and get supplies and drop them off at the homes where they are needed. Any parishioner that has reached out and volunteered to be a runner is on that list. The Men's Club continues to develop a system to streamline this process. We are drawing from our charitable funds to help cover costs when this is also needed. Our St. Vincent de Paul Society is also keeping tabs on our poor and vulnerable parishioners so that their needs can be addressed in a similar way. At this time, these efforts are at the forefront of St. Mark's response to this crisis. In the midst of all this difficulty, this is a beautiful example of the Church at her finest: serving those in need as a community of faith. We will need the continued support of all our parishioners who are able, to keep these efforts strong! I cannot thank enough those who are participating in this effort.

Next, with the blessing of some modern technology, there is much we can do to remain united as a parish right now. Even though we are physically apart, we are together in spirit! Please continue to check the website each day ([stmarkindy.org](http://stmarkindy.org)) to find daily homilies, reflections, prayers, and live-streamed/recorded Masses. We must continue to pray together! St. Mark is our spiritual home, and we will not cease to offer all we can for the nourishment of your faith. This is paramount in importance to me, and I cannot thank our parish staff enough for working around the clock to keep our parish up and running in innovative ways! St. Mark is here for you, so please do not hesitate to call or email if you need anything.

I also want to update you on our school ministry, which is continuing to form our students spiritually and academically. As the kids are home, they are fully engaged in e-learning. They are continuing to receive lessons in each subject, and the faith is being incorporated every day just as if they were here. The mission of our Catholic school is fully intact, and that is possible because the administration, teachers, and support staff of our school have stepped up during this crisis in an incredible way!

Finally, I want to encourage everyone to see this as an incredible opportunity for us to grow in the faith. We are living through a historic time when the mission of the Church is as important as ever. In the midst of uncertainty, the Church provides comfort, the assurance of faith, and lifesaving aid to those in need! What a wonderful time to witness the full beauty and necessity of the Mystical Body of Christ in the world. Let us continue to pray daily for a quick end to this pandemic, for all working to help those affected by it, and especially for the sick, suffering, and those who have died.

Stay tuned for more updates as they come in, and may God bless you all!

-Fr. Tim

PS: We will Livestream Sunday Mass at 10:00 AM, tomorrow, March 22, 2020! Tune in on YouTube, find a link on our website!