

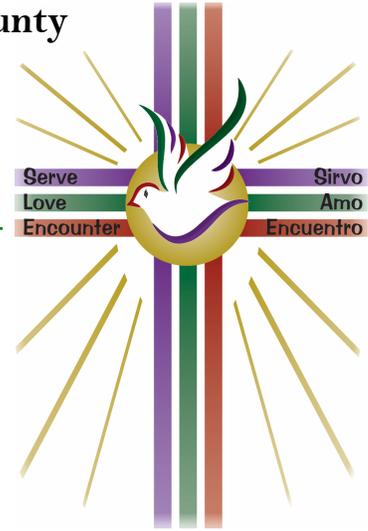
The Catholic Parishes of South Washington County

St. Augustine ~ St. James ~ St. Joseph

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Update from Fr John - 3/23/20

Dear parishioners,

I hope you are well as we hunker down in our homes. With the latest restrictions announced today by Governor Hogan to stop the spread of COVID-19, I have decided to discontinue all office hours in all 3 parish locations until further notice. Staff members will be available by email, and attentive to voicemail messages. The three churches of our pastorate will also be closed until further notice.

Starting tomorrow, 3/23/20, I will be streaming morning mass in English at 8:00 am on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Fr Juan Antonio will be streaming mass in Spanish at 7:00 pm on Tuesdays and Fridays. This is in addition to streaming mass on Saturdays at 4:30 pm in English and 5:30 pm mass in Spanish. Here is the link:

[Facebook.com/mystjoseph](https://www.facebook.com/mystjoseph). Please join us!

At this point, we will continue to hear confessions at St Joseph on Saturdays in English at 3:30 pm and on Sundays in Spanish at 1:15 pm. They will be in Riggie Hall with Social distancing and no more than 10 people in the building. We may need to discontinue confessions as conditions warrant in the future. You may be wondering about confessions on the phone or Skype; so far the Church has not given permission for confessions in any format other than in person.

Labeled and sealed bottles of holy water have been placed outside the glass doors at St Joseph; please feel free to drop by and take a bottle home for personal prayer.

At this point, as we are inundated with media coverage of the Pandemic, feeling the loss of our usual daily routines, and experiencing isolation from our usual social gatherings, all of us at times may feel anxious or lonely. Let's please support one another in prayer, and stay connected phone, and email. If things seem a little overwhelming, and you would like to talk, or pray together over the phone, call me on my cell: 410-440-0374.

In the Lord,

Fr John