

HOLY ROSARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Seattle, Washington



Special Online Only Bulletin

Dear Holy Rosary Community,

As we follow the guidelines set by the State of Washington, the King County Health Department as well as the Archdiocese of Seattle, we continue to provide limited programming. Many of our faith formation and Sacramental Preparation programs will have online content so please check our website at www.holyrosaryseattle.org for the most current information and regular updates on our adapted parish life, or contact our staff directly. We continue to serve as able. The Church will be open from 8AM-4PM Mon-Sat, and 11AM-4PM Sundays, so stop by for prayer if you are not showing any illness symptoms.

With the cancellations of all public Masses, **Sunday Mass will be livestreamed on the Holy Rosary Facebook page at www.facebook.com/HolyRosaryWestSeattle at 9:30AM.** Daily Masses will usually be livestreamed at Noon. Afterward, you have the ability to watch the posted videos at any time. You do not need to have a Facebook account to access the videos or livestreams. Additional video content may be added at a later date. Please check back often.

Sacraments will still be offered by appointment. Confession, Anointing of the Sick, and Baptisms can be scheduled. Please call 206-937-1488 ext 200 or email Melissa at MTuthill@holyrosaryseattle.org to do so.

To be added to our email distribution list, if you need assistance in your home, or are interested in helping others, please contact Libby at parishoffice@holyrosaryseattle.org or 206-937-1488 ext. 209.

March 15, 2020

Third Sunday of Lent



It is my experience that Lent always brings with it its own Crosses—penances and sacrifices that I didn't plan for or expect. This Lent is no exception, as the coronavirus ravages parts of the world, and is having a large impact on our life here in the Seattle area. Every year, I am gone for a few weekends for vacation, and it is always odd to celebrate Sunday Mass away from the parish. This weekend will be an even sadder experience. Archbishop Etienne, in accordance with the restrictions put in place by Governor Inslee and the King County Public Health Officer, has cancelled all public Masses. Almost all parish programming and events, and the school itself, are closed as well. The only things that are continuing on, as able and under strict regulations, are some of our outreach ministries as we continue to serve those who are at the greatest risk.

In this Sunday's Gospel, the beginning of Jesus' conversation with the Samaritan woman includes some words which always haunt me: "If you knew the gift to God..." So often we don't realize just how good God is to us. We take Him for granted—as well as His blessings. We are sometimes not grateful—allowing gifts to collect dust hidden in some closet. Some gifts we set our eyes upon every day, and yet do not experience the truth of their goodness. We pass by, unmoved by the encounter. Sometimes we only realize our error too late.

In Washington right now we are deprived of many of God's blessings to us. The gift of community, of growing in faith together, of friendship, of recreation, for some, even of work. The greatest sacrifice of all, though, is the Eucharist and the Holy Mass.

Normally there is only one day a year when we are deprived of the Eucharist—Holy Saturday. On Holy Saturday, we experience the death of Christ, the abandonment of the tomb. For many, that is what the experience of these public health precautions is like. We experience a taste of sacrifice throughout Lent with our fasting and abstinence. This year, though, it is much deeper as we experience a much greater emptiness and loss.

Every time we go to Mass, we enter into the Lord's Supper, where Jesus offers Himself to the Father, and to us. There is no moment on earth when we are closer to Heaven than in the Eucharist, the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On Sundays, and even at daily Mass, we gather together with the Church, the Body of Christ, the Bride whom He beckons to Himself for all eternity. From the very beginning, Sunday was of great importance. It is the Day of the Lord—when the community of the Lord gathers together with Him. There is even a commandment about it—and missing Sunday Mass is a mortal/deadly sin unless you are sick, caring for someone ill or infirm. It requires something extraordinary—because being with the Lord, and the community of the faithful, should be ordinary in our lives as His disciples. The coronavirus is extraordinary; given the need for social distancing to slow the pandemic, the Archbishop done something not done for 100 years—cancelled Masses and waived the obligation.

That is a word I have never liked. Obligation. Does a bride consider attending her own wedding an obligation? And yet that is what the Mass is! Our Bridegroom draws near. How can we not be filled with joy? How can we not be filled with His love for us—and our love for Him in response? We shouldn't go to Mass because we have too, but because we would rather be with the Lord than anywhere else. He should be our excuse to miss everything else. So often people ask me where God is—especially in moments of darkness, such as this. Yet it is the reason He went to the Cross—to share in our sufferings. And it is the reason He gave us the Eucharist—so we would always have God with us, and a strength and nourishment that is literally not of this world. "If you knew the gift of God..."

We will be livestreaming Sunday Mass each week. It is still the Lord's Day, and it is important for us to still celebrate with Him as we are able—and with the Church and each other. There is no question that there is a sadness in not being together, and a sacrifice too. Mass on TV or online is different, especially since you can't receive the Eucharist, but you can pray for Spiritual Communion as God draws near to you, as we seek His presence in our midst. In this time of emptiness and loss, may we not lose sight of this gift of God. See page 4 for fuller details.

Know that you are in my prayers, and if you need anything please do not hesitate to reach out.

ATTENTION: COVID-19/CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE [KING COUNTY HEALTH DEPT](#) ARE

CHANGING RAPIDLY. For several weeks now, though, our public health officials have identified those who are most at risk as being:

- Those over 60 years old;
- Those who have underlying medical conditions; and/or
- Those who are pregnant.

These individuals, for their own sake, have been invited to self-limit their exposure risk by self-limiting their public contact. Archbishop Etienne, Governor Inslee, and all other medical and public authorities are repeating this same message. Additionally, everyone else is now required to practice social distancing as much as possible—practicing high standards of hygiene, especially handwashing, and remaining at least six feet apart for long periods of time, to slow the spread of the coronavirus, reduce the peak number of those affected, and preserve the limited capacity of our health care system.

Ongoing Commitment to our Community

Our Parish and School staff continue to faithfully serve our community in these trying times as best as we can. We remain available—over the phone and online if not in person. Just as the church is still open, so too are the offices for the present time, though we are limiting our meetings. As this is a time of anxiety for many with regard to the coronavirus and corresponding economic instability, last week all our parish and school staff were assured that whether we continue to operate from the school or parish offices or from home, in a full or limited capacity, they would continue to receive their full regular pay and benefits.

Online Giving

Thank you to those who already give online whose contributions will support our work and ministry during this difficult time and beyond. If you do not currently give online but wish to do so for the present time, either with a one-time donation or to establish ongoing giving, select Create an Account at www.osvonlinegiving.com/4255. For now we are also able to receive mail and you can use the business envelope included in your monthly envelope packets, or even drop it by—using the mail slot in the parish office side door on the south side near the church. Giving at Mass accounts for 53% of our weekly donations, and we are already experiencing the impact. Thank you for continuing to support the mission of Christ as we continue our work and ministry in challenging times.

Holy Rosary Parish Staff

Mainline: 206-937-1488, enter extension listed below

PASTOR: Fr. Matthew Oakland
(froakland@holynosaryseattle.org)

ADMINISTRATION: Ted Krembs
(PAA@holynosaryseattle.org), ext. 213

ADULT EVANGELIZATION: Robert King
(evangelization@holynosaryseattle.org), ext. 203

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES—Baptism & Young Families:
Deyette Swegle (dswegle@holynosaryseattle.org), ext. 251

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES—1st Sacraments, Children:
Sister Stella (srstella@holynosaryseattle.org), ext. 252

YOUTH MINISTRY: Bridget Bicek
(PAYouth@holynosaryseattle.org), ext. 299

MARRIAGE: Sarah Goins
(marriage@holynosaryseattle.org), ext. 208

LITURGY & MUSIC: Paul Dolejsi
(pdolejsi@holynosaryseattle.org), ext. 204

BOOKKEEPER: Karen Edgin
(HRBookkeeper@holynosaryseattle.org), ext. 211

ADMIN ASSISTANT & PRIVATE EVENTS: Melissa Tuthill
(mtuthill@holynosaryseattle.org), ext. 200

ADMIN ASSISTANT— Bulletin and Calendaring: Libby Pickthorn
(parishoffice@holynosaryseattle.org), ext. 209

PLANT MANAGER: Scott Stoefen
(sstoefen@holynosaryws.org), ext. 215

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Anna Horton
(ahorton@holynosaryws.org), ext. 218

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL: ext. 300

We continue to offer many ways to celebrate and grow closer to Jesus Christ.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

This Sunday we will be livestreaming Mass at www.facebook.com/HolyRosaryWestSeattle at 9:30AM. You do not need a Facebook account to participate. It will show up on the main page, and in the Videos section. It will remain posted as a video for you to watch later if preferable. While the Archbishop has exempted all individuals from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass at this time, it is still important to keep the Lord's Day as much as possible. Mass on TV or online doesn't fulfill the Sunday obligation, but it is an important way to remain connected to the central mystery of our faith and the community of the Church. Daily Mass will normally be livestreamed at noon each day as we are able. (Though not on Mon, Mar 16)

To help you participate, or to further your own daily reflection and prayer, you can find the daily Mass readings as well as other prayer resources and reflections at www.usccb.org. Magnificat is also offering an online copy of their monthly booklet for free during this time—with the Mass readings and prayers, and daily prayers and reflections. You can access it by visiting us.magnificat.net/free.

While participating in Mass online or via TV, you are invited to make a **Spiritual Communion**:

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most holy Eucharist. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.



Mass Intentions will continue to be celebrated by Fr. Oakland. To make changes to your previously-scheduled intention, or to schedule future ones, please contact Melissa at 206-937-1488 ext. 200 or at MTuthill@holyrosaryseattle.org.

Continuing Services

We continue to serve the community in the following ways:

- St. Vincent de Paul continues to serve our neighbors in need through Lunches of Love (at the Parish Office M-F 10:30am-Noon), our food pantry, through our Lenten Food Drive (Donation bins in the Church building), and in other ways. To request assistance, please call 206-937-1488 x300.
- FORMED is a Catholic online content service, with videos, ebooks, audiobooks, and more. [Register today for free!](#)
- Upcoming events still scheduled:
 - May 16: Stuff the Truck—St. Vincent de Paul will collect clothing, books, and small household items
 - August 2-7: Totus Tuus—Our summer program for children and teens is [open for registration now!](#)
- Additional opportunities for prayer:
 - **Rosary:** [Sacred Heart Radio](#)
 - **Stations of the Cross:** [Busted Halo](#)

Cancelled

The Lenten Mission with Fr. Bartholomew Hutcherson, OP is cancelled.

Postponed

The following programs are postponed until further notice:

- All Faith Formation programs, including Children's Faith Formation, High School Youth Ministry, Women with Purpose, Men's Group, Inquiry, Wednesday Morning Bible Study, etc.
- All Sacramental Preparation programs, including First Communion and RCIA
- Monday Night Rosary
- Shoulder to Shoulder's Golden Outreach, CYO practices and games, Dance Class, etc.