

St. Peter Church— March 22, 2020

Please remember to support the advertisers on the back of our regular bulletin—they need our support
Even more now as most are small business owners.

Dear Parishioners,

It is with heavy heart that we go through this period with no public Masses or liturgies. We will have gone through our Lord's Passion, Death, and Resurrection, before you once again can receive the Bread of Life. This is a trial for you and for many in the U.S., Italy, France, Spain, India, and many places across the globe where public liturgies are being suspended with the hope of slowing down the spread of this epidemic.

With no public services, no office hours, no parish school of religion classes, adult studies, etc. we as a parish are left with two main tasks. First, to Pray. Keep your spiritual life a priority each day during these crazy times. We will from time to time post on Facebook various resources to help you in that. Try to make your home what the family is called in Church documents, "The Domestic Church." Each day make a Spiritual Communion or at least on Sundays when you normally would have received our Lord sacramentally (see our website for such a prayer).

What is a Spiritual Communion? Often in hospitals if a person cannot receive communion for some reason, we lead them through a prayer (which we have published on our website, stpeterchillicothe.com). The idea is that you spiritually unite with Jesus in the Sacrament since you cannot at that time physically unite with Him in the Sacrament.

Second, take care of those who are vulnerable. Think of who you know from the parish or your neighborhood who may need checked on. Think of those who have no family in the area. Give them a call, ask them if they need anything. Sometimes just the voice of someone who cares will be the calming influence they need. Don't underestimate the power of a simple, brief, phone call to let someone know that they are not forgotten in this time of isolation.

Along with this, our St. Vincent DePaul Society is continuing to operate in a very modified way, relying more on phone calls and vouchers. With the shutting down of much of the service industry, many people who live paycheck to paycheck are going to be in need. We can expect a considerable uptick in persons needing assistance. Couple this with the fact that we as a parish are not going to be meeting together anytime soon, and the support that you so generously give them through the fifth Sunday collection once each quarter is going to be lost this quarter, and you can see why I have some concern that we continue to support their work in this time.

To this end I ask you, particularly if your wages are not being affected in this time, to please consider contributing. You can do this by mailing in a donation to the parish office or by going online and donating. Elsewhere in this bulletin there is an ad that explains how easy it is to set up online giving and make a donation.

I also want to share what I shared on FaceBook: The first private Mass I celebrated after the ban on public Masses, realizing that I and the other priests will not be able to feed you with the Bread of Life for these next number of weeks, was painful. It was what we were ordained to do and is one of the greatest joys of the priesthood. I know the Lord has great plans if he is asking the Church to walk through this desert without his Sacramental Presence. The Cross always leads to the Resurrection. I also know He wants to reveal himself more fully in your daily life, in the power of His Spirit, in these coming days. Wait on the Lord. Be Attentive. The Psalm Response of that Mass was: "Athirst is my soul for the living God. When shall I go and behold the face of God?" - May this Eucharistic Fast of the Church intensify in us longing for God and the things of God!

In Christ,
Fr. Hahn

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I write to you again to speak about the many challenges we all face in light of the growing Coronavirus pandemic, which is so significantly impacting every facet of our daily lives. As you already know, the bishops of Ohio earlier this week decided to suspend the public celebration of Mass in every diocese of the state, and dispensed to the faithful from their obligation to attend Mass at least through Easter Sunday.

I cannot begin to tell you how difficult and painful this decision was, especially during the Lenten season. But, after consultation with our Governor and several health and medical officials, and faced with the stark realities regarding the spread of this virus, it became apparent that this dramatic step was critical to making sure we are doing all we can to help curtail the spread of this virus and keep our communities healthy. This extreme measure is a stark reminder of the necessity for all of us to heed the warnings of health and government officials to stay at home.

As Masses have been halted until after Easter, all other activities and events in our parishes must also be canceled or postponed to restrict contact and exposure. Many have asked about keeping our churches open for prayer, Adoration, and Reconciliation. The real answer is that you should remain home. Please understand that we as priests want to be faithful to our responsibility for the care of souls but in doing so, not to place people in danger. For the moment that means finding other ways to keep our parishioners connected and spiritually fed through the Word of God, and responding to pastoral emergencies. I implore your understanding and our shared cooperation. Trust me, I look forward to being together to celebrate the sacred mysteries of our faith. It is only under the strictest guidelines for hygiene and safety that Churches may be open for prayer and confession. Priests will try to be available or get the necessary assistance for urgent situations.

I want to leave you with this suggestion: if possible, in consideration of not only your health but the health of all those you might come in contact with, ***please make every effort to stay home*** and find other means to stay close to the Lord. This is especially true for those of us with the highest risk for complications from infection. Utilize Catholic media, TV, and St. Gabriel Radio to continue to experience the Mass. Take this opportunity to expand your prayer life. You can find links to much of this information on our website, columbuscatholic.org. As we move forward, we will continue adding resources to assist you.

Even in these challenging times, as we all continue our faith journey during Lent, all of us can engage in spiritual communion. A spiritual communion acknowledges that deep sense of loss at not being able to share the sacrament but an act of faith in Jesus' faithful presence among us as we long for the day when we might share anew in the Lord's most gracious gift.

Let us be united with ever fervent prayer even as we experience physical "social distancing". Let us beg God's help and mercy in this trying time. Indeed let us practice "extreme charity" making these sacrifices for the good of those around us and being aware of the each other's needs. We pray for all those who are afflicted by this virus or any illness, for all of us who have been impacted, and for those who labor to curb and defeat its effects and keep us safe. We offer all of our sufferings and anxiety to Our Lord Jesus, and united in faith, we pray to be refreshed by his boundless love.

Sincerely in Christ,
Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan
Bishop of Columbus

St. Isidore, Pray for Us!
St. Rocco, Pray for Us!

Watch the Private Masses and Devotions from the Parish on Facebook LiveStream

Sundays, 9:30 a.m. Holy Mass from St. Peter's
Fridays, 3:00 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet with the Sisters

See Facebook for announcements of other devotions and Masses occasionally during the week.

Check the parish website for additional information and links as well. www.stpeterchillicothe.com

Online Giving

Setting up an account is very easy! Click on the "online giving" box on the St. Peter webpage at www.stpeterchillicothe.com. Once there, create an account. When you log into your account, you will see a dropdown of all of the various funds available for you to choose to contribute to – including the St. Vincent DePaul Society.

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

March 30—Bob Kight—150 Plum Street
April 2—Larry Heightsman 14996 Pleasant Valley, Lot 129
April 18—Marilyn Taylor, 142 University Dr., Apt. 233

Any of our parishioners who would be willing to help any of the vulnerable in our parish in the next few weeks should contact Judy Harness or leave a message at the parish office at 740-774-1407.

Fr. Hahn will be celebrating private Masses with the following intentions.

Saturday, March 21- Christine & Kenneth White by Elmer & Vicky Palisbo

Sunday, March 22— For the People

Monday, March 23—Jim Pinnix by the Pinnix Family

Tuesday, March 24- Mary Alberta Hauser by Deacon & Mrs. Hauser

Wednesday, March 25 - Greg Griffith by Dave Purpero

Thursday, March 26—Intentions of Thom & Sonia Lisk

Friday, March 27—Ann Enderle by Ott & Dixon Families

Saturday, March 28 - Dan Harness, Jr. by Phyllis Hassey

Sunday, March 29—For the People

Fr. Beal is currently recovering from the flu at his mother's home in Pennsylvania. For his private Masses this week he will offer the following intentions:

Mary & Ernest Damico—by the family
Frank Roth—by Annette Roth & Andrea McLean

Mildred McCarty—by Elizabeth Weisenberger & Mary Mathis

Magnificat is offering free online access to their publication during this difficult time. Sign up at the link below

www.magnificat.com/free

Also, don't forget about the Formed website. It can be downloaded onto your phone, ipad or "smart" TV. Go to formed.org and sign up.

Have a movie night with the family using one of the many wonderful movies on the Formed website. Check out the Children's content as well . . . Brother Francis is particular favorite of many. Download one of the numerous books on the site as well . . . have a family book discussion with one.

Turn lemons into lemonade during this time of confinement and social distancing . . . Increase your faith by using Formed and the Magnificat!

Our prayer list is growing . . . please review the names listed. If you see someone who can be removed, please contact Jenny at the parish office.

If there is someone in need of being on this prayer list, please call Jenny at the parish office – 740-774-1407. Please pray for the following members of God's family:

Amy & Rich Adams, Lynn Albright, Greg Althouse, Mary Jo Amici, Peggy Bechie, Wendy Brown, Steve Bruce, Caitlyn Burton, Dinese Carmen, Ashley Coates, Donnie Cochenour, John Cochenour, Rosemarie Cox, Don Davis, Joyce DeLong, Charles "Porky" Dennis, Judy Dennis, Darlene DiPrati, Sr., Andy Drummond, Brian Duncan, Kathy Dye, Don Ellifritt, Amy Carroll Fields, Beth Flynn, Langston Forbes, Veronica Geimer, Sharon Good, Jane Harness, Elaine Haubeil, Maranda Hay, Frank Hayes, Brookie & Larry Heightsman, JoAn Kear, Bob Kight, Sr., Susan Knight, Mike Mallett, Patricia Mallett, James May, Jr., James May, Sr., Brian Moore, Catherine Nixon, Steve Peters, Nancy Proehl, Angelina Prog, Andy Reeves, Mick Rooney, Mike Scheeler, Ray Schmidt, Phil Schobeloch, Don Schofield, Joe Schumann, John Seifert, Joyce Seymour, John Slagle, Gary Smith, Kevin Smith, Juanita Sommers, Andrew Speziale, Richard Stadtfeld, Helen Stanton, Elbieta Straathof, Colleen Sulzer, Rev. Rick Terry, Sandy Walters, Roger Wilburn, Michael Wiley, Debbie Winegar.