



St. Luke the Evangelist Catholic Community

A Message from the Pastor

March 22, 2020

Merciful Father, please guide and purify my attempts to face the challenges and invitations of my life, as you share your sanctifying grace that allows me to truly see.

Dear Parishioners,

In the Gospel reading for Sunday, Jesus encounters a blind man. The man wishes to see; yet, even before he receives his physical sight, he trusts in Jesus. We are the blind today who often selfishly judge others from our place of pomposity. Our Lenten journey, which has changed much these days, calls us to trust in Jesus and keep our sight on Him.

We are all challenged to bravely ask Jesus for a new sight and insight by first acknowledging our own shortcomings and sinful choices and to offer that brokenness and spiritual blindness in a supreme act of contrition in these days of prayerful solitude.

I am thinking of our elect, David, who himself is physically sight challenged and who is journeying with us to become fully initiated. He loves and trusts in Jesus. He will not experience the joy of the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday due to our circumstances and how painful I find it to realize this as a shepherd. But I, like you and David, must trust in Jesus who will give us a renewed vision in the weeks and months ahead. Jesus, we trust in You.

Please pray for your priests who feel imprisoned these days just like you. I continue to work each day making decisions to keep the parish afloat, repair the old buildings, and communicate with the authorities. I have been keeping in touch with many of you who have e-mailed me or sent messages of support following these short dispatches. I also connect with you in the spiritual realm of prayer. Fr. Tommy will reach out to some of our eldest whom we might know have no family through phone call or e-mail as he is able to offer our thoughts and prayers. Our staff continue as they can to conduct their programs online and in the social media realm. We are all living a different reality that calls us to do things differently.

Know of your priests' daily prayers for you as we journey together.

Please visit our Parish Website for continued COVID-19 information related to parish activities and previous e-communications: <http://stluketemplecity.org/covid-19-notice>.

Blessings,

Fr. Mark