

I want to encourage all of us to take this opportunity to pray more, not less. To pray for people throughout the world, and to pray for one another. This is an opportunity to develop a family spirituality, a time to develop habits of family prayer.

I know some of you have built altars in your homes and follow the Mass live by streaming. Some of you take time to read the scripture and share ways to live the word of God. These creative expressions of faith and devotion will sustain your faith and build up the Church.

I am very grateful to the pastors and priests who celebrate the Mass everyday alone for your intentions. Their prayers and efforts keep your faith community alive. Their presence and ministry in the parish accompanies each of you on this journey. I am so grateful to them for their support of you and their cooperation with me as we find our way together in faith.

I know that you love the Church and your parish. Your continuing support for your parish is most appreciated especially now. Thank you for whatever sacrifices you are making to help the parish.

I assure you of my prayers for each one of you and your families. The Lord is calling us to deeper faith, hope and charity. Let's live the gift of this moment of grace with courage.

God bless you throughout the Easter season. And today, Mercy Sunday, may you experience the Love and Mercy God has for you.

Sincerely in the Risen Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "W. Michael Mulvey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Most Reverend W. Michael Mulvey
Bishop of Corpus Christi



Most Rev. Wm. Michael Mulvey, STL, DD
Bishop of Corpus Christi

19 April 2020

Dear Friends,

Happy Easter! The Lord Jesus Christ is truly Risen as He promised.

Today we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. Amidst the Coronavirus Pandemic, we call upon God's Mercy which reaches beyond our human ability to show compassion to one another. God's mercy is for all, for every human person in all situations.

In the spirit of God's mercy, I want to express my solidarity with each one of you. I know that not being able to attend Mass in your parishes continues to be painful. Not being able to gather for the Eucharist and to be nourished with the word of God, leaves a void in our week. The Sacraments and the word of God are essential to our Christian vocation. Your patience and understanding in the face of this suffering is edifying.

Our cooperate with the safety guidelines and regulations of our state, regional and municipal governments and heeding the advice of medical professionals has helped curb the spread of the virus throughout the country and the world. Nevertheless, the collective effort to stay at home and not gather in large numbers, prevents us from celebrating the mystery of God's love in each of the sacraments (at least for now).

If there is any consolation in this it is that sacrifice is the soul of 'Love' and is expressed in Mercy. I pray that our sacrifices related to the lack the sacramental life for the present time will contribute to end the spread of this dreadful virus across the globe.

This past Friday Governor Abbott announced some measures aimed at gradually reopening a portion of the Texas economy. He did not go as far as to increase the numbers permitted for social gatherings. Therefore, we must continue to not gather for Mass until it is deemed safe to do so.

I am meeting regularly with the Deans throughout the Diocese. We are monitoring the situation and developing plans to resume our sacramental life as a community when the time comes to do so.