

## ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC PARISH

620 NORTH CEDAR BLUFF ROAD

KNOXVILLE, TN 37923-2229

March 16, 2020

My prayers for the peace, health and safety of us all and for those who suffer any illness and for those who care for them.

In an effort to comply with recommendations from the CDC, in an abundance of caution out of concern for the health & welfare of all and for practical reasons, please be advised of the below actions which will be effective tomorrow, March 17 here at All Saints.

We understand that some will be relieved about this and some will not. Ironically, this is a time more than ever that we need each other and our spiritual practices and yet we are being asked to be separated to a degree. Please make this a personal time of prayer and reflection, and meet via phone with spiritual friends etc if needed for support.

1. All Masses will continue as scheduled however, the Bishop has dispensed the faithful from their Sunday obligation through March 31. Please note all Masses are livestreamed on Facebook.
2. No worship aids will be used during Mass.
3. NO activities, groups, classes or meetings will take place through March 31. Except for the following:
  - a. Adoration will continue as scheduled with social distancing.
  - b. Stations of the Cross will continue with social distancing.
4. Confessions will continue as scheduled with proper social distancing.
5. Previously scheduled funerals, weddings, and baptisms may be held without receptions if they cannot be rescheduled for a later date. Social distancing and disinfecting procedures should be observed.
6. Communion to the homebound will be suspended except for Viaticum. Those who have been bringing communion to the homebound should continue to make weekly contact by phone and invite them to spiritual communion. If someone is in danger of dying, please immediately notify all three priests so that we can attend to them.
7. We are currently assessing the viability of planning the adult social and the prudence of hosting that event.

8. The Parish Offices will be closed to the public. If you have any business, questions or concerns, please email the office at <mailto:admin@allsaintsknoxville.com> or call 531-0770.
9. Our website, Facebook, and parish app are the best ways to stay connected to the parish especially when we may feel cut-off or isolated.

During this challenging time, we remember that our hope is in the Lord. Even though we and the world are taking precautions to stay healthy, this should be seen as a positive and not something to fear. Please do not let panic cause you to panic but to adhere to recommendations and stay grounded in faith, hope, and charity.

We are doing our best to make the most prudent decisions with the ever-changing information we have and we sincerely appreciate your prayers and cooperation through this time. We will be evaluating this suspension to determine if we can return to normal activities after March 31st.

Be assured of my prayers for all and that through this we will be stronger together.

Fr. Doug