



April 19, 2020

Sacred Heart Parish—Clay County & St. Joseph Parish—O'Brien County

FROM THE PASTOR

This virus crisis affects people spiritually, physically, emotionally, economically, and mentally. It challenges us to live and function in different ways. I pray that you are not only surviving, but finding ways to thrive. My prayers are with you.

I received this from a friend in Chicago. Even though Easter was last week it is still a good reflection:

The very first Easter was not in a crowded worship space with singing and praising. On the very first Easter the disciples were locked in their house. It was dangerous for them to come out. They were afraid. They wanted to believe the good news they heard from the women, that Jesus had risen... But it seemed too good to be true. They were living a time of such despair and such fear. If they left their homes, their lives and the lives of their loved ones might be at risk. Could a miracle really have happened? Could life really have won out over death? Could this time of terror and fear really be coming to an end?

Alone in their homes they dared to believe that hope was possible, that the long night was over and morning had broken, that God's love was the most powerful of all, even though it didn't seem quite real yet. Eventually, they were able to leave their homes, when the fear and danger had subsided, they went around celebrating and spreading the good news that Jesus was risen and love was the most powerful force on the earth.

This year, we might get to experience a taste of what that first Easter was like, still in our homes daring to believe that hope is on the horizon... Then, after a while, when it is safe for all people, when it is the most loving choice, we will come out, gathering together, singing and shouting the good news that God brings life even out of death, that love always has the final say!

This year, we might get the closest taste we have had yet to what that first Easter was like.

Thank you to all who have contributed financially these past few weeks. It is a testament to your Faith and concern for our continued ministry. If you have not contributed recently, I would encourage you to give a few dollars. We are all in this together and all support is helpful and appreciated.

God's Blessings to you!

Fr. Tim

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ONLINE MASSES: <https://www.spencersacredheart.com/onlinemass>

RESOURCES: For Parish and Diocesan updates, announcements, school news and faith support resources go to:

<http://www.spencersacredheart.com/resources>

SACRED HEART FACEBOOK PAGE: <https://www.facebook.com/SpencerSacredHeart/>

ST. JOSEPH FACEBOOK PAGE: <https://www.facebook.com/ObrienCoFaithFormation/>

MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK will be for: Esther Baxter, Kunkel-Elser Families, Tom Steinkamp, and All Parish Members.

PEWS AVAILABLE: There are still pews available in the Sutherland church. Anyone interested in them can contact Fr. Tim.

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE: Please remember in your prayers Connie Alger of our Sacred Heart Parish family; Paul Lenz of our St. Joseph Parish family. May they feast at the heavenly banquet.

CHURCH SUPPORT: Sacred Heart \$17,607.50, Special Collections \$390, St. Joseph \$3,117.86, Special Collections \$20.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 19, 2020

Sunday: Acts 2:42-47/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Pt 1:3-9/Jn 20:19-31

Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9 [cf. 11d]/Jn 3:1-8

Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/Jn 3:7b-15

Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [7a]/Jn 3:16-21

Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20 [7a]/Jn 3:31-36

Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [cf. 4abc]/Jn 6:1-15

Saturday: 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17 [2]/Mk 16:15-20 ©LPi