



March 28, 2020
Saturday of the Fourth Week of Lent

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with sadness and prayerful concern that the Catholic community has witnessed the continued rise in the number of cases of COVID-19 infections and deaths. We stand in solidarity with the rest of the people of our state in trying to bring this pandemic to a rapid end.

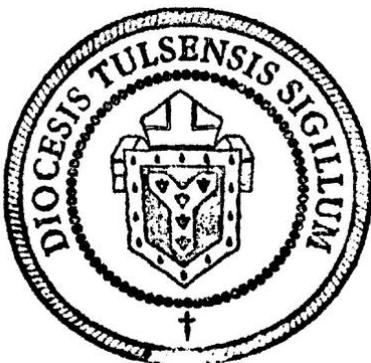
To that end, city and state officials have found it necessary to extend various restrictions in order to keep residents safe. With great sadness, this means that we will have to extend our current practice of celebrating Mass without the physical presence of the faithful until April 24, 2020. Until that date, no one is allowed to host gatherings of more than ten people and in various places in the state and diocese, the restriction is even tighter.

I am confident that our sacrifice is making a difference and that God, the giver of every grace, will supply what we need to grow in faith and holiness even as we long for the Eucharist. I join with you all in monitoring carefully for those signs indicating that soon our wait to return to the normal practice of our faith and communal presence with one another will be at an end.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs.
The heathens themselves said: "What marvels the Lord worked for them!"
What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.
Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.
The go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing;
they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves.
Psalm 126

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. David A. Konderla
Bishop of the Diocese of Tulsa & Eastern Oklahoma



Harrison H. Garlick
Chancellor & In-House Counsel