

November 13, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,

Each year families look forward to gathering for the special occasions of Thanksgiving and Christmas. These are typically the annual holidays when family members are able to spend time with each other making memories. However, this year has seen many challenges and changes created by the COVID-19/Coronavirus pandemic, which has altered many plans and placed many of us in a constant state of caution even when it comes to family events.

As your parish priest here in our Most Holy Redeemer/St. Canice and St. Patrick area, I have prayed for the people of our communities each day during the pandemic and offered spiritual support for our family in faith as can be reasonably offered during this time given the many limitations and parameters set by our Church and civil authorities. Weekend Mass continues to be offered in person and is also available via livestream on Facebook for those who are unable to join us at this time. The weekend Mass Schedule is as follows: 8:30 am First Saturday of the Month at St. Canice; 5:00 pm Saturday at Most Holy Redeemer; 8:30 am Sunday at Most Holy Redeemer; and 10:30 am Sunday at St. Patrick.

On the other side of this letter is a recap of the fiscal year 2019-2020 for our parish. Many of you have been extremely generous in financially supporting our parish during this unusual time period, for this I am grateful. As we approach the end of the year, any and all gifts and contributions towards the mission of letting Jesus Christ be known, loved and adored through our parish would be welcomed. Christmas will be here soon and there will be opportunities to gather safely for Christmas Mass at the following times:

10:00 pm December 24th at Most Holy Redeemer
12:00 Midnight December 25th at St. Patrick
8:30 am December 25th at Most Holy Redeemer
9:00 am December 25th at St. Canice
10:30 am December 25th at Most Holy Redeemer
11:00 am December 25th at St. Patrick

I am reminded of the words of St. Paul, "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor death, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:38-39)." Let us pray for one another during this season where the love of God is revealed powerfully through the presence of Jesus Christ among us.

With gratitude and Joy,

Fr. Thomas M. Niehaus