



St. Anthony de Padua  
Catholic Parish · Established 1948

March 13, 2020

Dear St. Anthony de Padua Parish Community,

Out of concern for those who may be susceptible to the coronavirus, especially the elderly and those with compromised immune systems, Bishop Rhoades has dispensed the Faithful from our Sunday Mass Obligation for the next three weekends (March 15, 22, & 29).\*

What does this mean for St. Anthony de Padua Parish? All Masses will still occur as scheduled. If, however, you feel unwell or unable to attend Mass over the next three Sundays, there is no obligation to do so. (Similar to our winter weather policy, an obligation assumes what is asked of us is possible. If we are ill or are legitimately concerned of being in large crowds given the heightened possibility of transmission of illness at this time, then we are physically incapable of fulfilling the obligation and are dispensed from doing so.)

In addition to our normal precautions announced last weekend and considering Bishop Rhoades announcement, we will be cancelling our Religious Education classes (K-12) in between Masses these next three weekends. Classes will resume at a latter date and will be communicated to you by our Director of Religious Education, Alycia Valentiny. Regarding school, please continue to pay attention to your emails and contact from our principal, Karen Bogol.

Our normally scheduled Lenten services (Stations of the Cross, Adoration times, Confession times) will continue to be offered as scheduled unless stated otherwise. Please consult the parish website for any updates.

Let us continue to pray at this time for the sick, for doctors, nurses, and health-care workers, and for an end to this illness. May we ask the intercession of St. Damien of Molokai and St. Rocco to intercede for us before the throne of our Lord in heaven.

\*For those who will be unable to attend Mass, you are encouraged to make use of the TV Mass on WNDU, Channel 16 (Cable: Comcast Ch. 8) at 10:30 on Sundays, to read and meditate upon the readings of the day (<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/>), to pray together as a family, and to make a spiritual communion.

Sincerely yours in the Lord,

Fr. Bob Garrow  
Pastor