



# St. Joseph Church

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April 15, 2020

Dear Parishioners, Ox Roast Fair Volunteers and Participants:

I am writing this letter to announce the cancellation of the Ox Roast Fair at St. Joseph Parish for 2020.

These are not normal times, due to the global impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic, affecting the lives of all people throughout the world. There is so much uncertainty right now that it requires our being patient, prudent, vigilant and above all **safe**. As I have expressed in a letter to parishioners previously, written before last year's fair: **"My concern is for the safety of all who attend and volunteer at this event."**

Right now, it is not safe to gather in even small groups for meetings, Mass and other church events. Therefore, it is impossible now and on into the foreseeable future, to consider holding the Ox Roast Fair for this year.

As the pastor of St. Joseph Parish, I am ultimately responsible in its entirety for everything positive or negative that happens here. We have no predictable control over the course of the Pandemic. We do need to comply with the knowledge and wisdom of scientists and medical experts as they research and discover ways to handle this crisis.

We must pray for God's continuous guidance as we seek and follow the counsel that will protect us and all of God's human family. Please stay safe and well! God bless you all!

Sincerely,

*Rev. Edward Stafford*

Rev. Edward Stafford

Pastor