

# ALL SAINTS PARISH

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Dear friends,

As we get closer to the start of another school and catechetical year, I wanted to send this letter to all of you to keep you updated on the happenings in our parish.

Please rest assured that I am praying for you daily during this challenging time in our nation and world. While things can be quite discouraging right now, I would encourage you to take some time each day, even if it's a few moments in the morning, to read the Bible and pray about the day.

## **First, our sacramental life.**

Our weekend Masses continue on Saturdays at 4PM and on Sundays at 10AM. We have had a good response of over 50 people, which is the full capacity because of the "social distancing" regulation, on Sundays and over 40 on Saturdays. The reservations for weekend Masses are still in place. There are no reservations required for daily weekday Masses at 12:05PM (Tuesday-Friday).

Also, our First Communion celebration and the Sacrament of Confirmation which were postponed due to COVID 19 pandemic were rescheduled. The First Communion will be celebrated on September 13<sup>th</sup> and the Sacrament of Confirmation on October 11<sup>th</sup>.

The families of the children and young adults involved were contacted about the details.

## **Second, our CCD / Parish Religious Education Program.**

In every decision concerning our parish religious education program, our guiding principle is to care for the safety and welfare of our students, their families and our volunteers/teachers.

In order to provide for the continued and safe religious education of students, we are shifting from in-person instruction to an online learning management system.

We will be using a web-based learning management system prepared for us by our Diocesan Office for Parish Life Team. It is called **Faith Alive!**

Our CCD teachers will provide ongoing assignments, educational support and availability for student questions and interaction through an online learning management system. Our students will be completing learning assignments from home.

Soon, we will be establishing an account with the technology platform, Edmodo, for every family with children that wishes to participate. In order to do so, however, we need to know how many participants we will have. Therefore, I included in this mailing the CCD registration form. I would like to invite the families with children to register them for our CCD program by

filling it in and dropping it off at our parish office or if you come to Mass at the Church you can drop it in the box.

I would like to assure you that this change in our CCD program came only after careful thought, planning, consideration, and prayer.

As always, we need CCD teachers. If you feel called by God for this very important ministry, please give us a call at (570)779-5323.

**Third, we continue to remain financially stable.**

I am grateful for all of your prayers and support. Especially, I would like to thank all of you who make your regular contributions by mailing in your envelopes and in person while attending our Masses in order to support the work of our church. This is greatly appreciated

**Finally, I would like share with you the text of the prayer.**

It was written by our Holy Father, Pope Francis to the Blessed Mother during COVID-19 pandemic.

*O Mary,  
you always shine on our path as a sign of salvation and of hope.  
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,  
who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.  
You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need,  
and we are sure you will provide so that, as in Cana of Galilee,  
we may return to joy and to feasting after this time of trial.  
Help us, Mother of Divine Love to conform to the will of the Father  
and to do as we are told by Jesus, who has taken upon himself our sufferings  
and carried our sorrows to lead us, through the cross, to the joy of the resurrection. Amen.*

And a few final words 😊

Stay strong, stay safe and stay in touch with each other and with Christ Jesus. Together, we will meet this moment.

Please be assured of my continued prayers for you and your loved ones.

In Christ's Peace

Father Jacek