



St. Thomas More Catholic Church

16 Mar 20

Pastoral Letter - 2,

Dear Parishioners,

These are difficult times for the Church. Our Archbishop and pastors of our local church and parishes are feverously trying to find the best options possible to exercise extreme caution, while at the same time provide pastoral care for our people, young and old alike. Things are currently in constant fluidity as the decisions we make today are subject to change due to new decisions being made by our political leaders, who are responding to new information that is being released by the CDC and Oregon Health Authority from one hour/day to the next.

As of today, Archbishop Sample has declared that **all public** Masses be canceled until 14 April. Please see the attached letter, also available in the e-bulletin or email blast and on our webpage.

Please know that I will still celebrate Masses for the people each day, but they will be celebrated privately.

Outside of the times when I am celebrating Mass, the main entrance door and the choir door (**for those with ambulatory issues only**) will remain unlocked from **9am to 4pm Monday through Friday**, for those individuals wishing to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament in the Tabernacle in prayer.

This is a particularly difficult time for all pastors and the Archbishop as these restrictions take us through Holy Week and Easter. Stay connected to STM and Archdpx.org for up-to-date info.

I highly encourage all of you to set aside time for prayer daily or at least once a week. You may want to consider praying the Rosary as a family, or logging on to one of the following media, just to name a few, to assist you:

Online - EWTN.com or Wordonfire.org

Podcasts – Saintcast, NAB, Word on Fire, CatholiCity, The Rosary, Relevant Radio

Radio – SXM 129 Catholic Channel, or FM 88.3 KVBM

Downloadable Apps – The Catholic Bible - The Rosary - Truth and Life - Pray as you go - Reimagining the examen – Laudate - Formed.org - Magnificat

Youtube - Superbooks

For those wishing to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation, I will still be available on **Saturdays from 4-5** in the confessional.

Thank you for your cooperation, understanding and prayers as we navigate through this current difficult time.

All that is Holy and Sacred, remains Holy and Sacred. Be Not Afraid

In His Spirit,
Rev. Martin L. King, Pastor