



Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

March 19, 2020 (Feast of St. Joseph)

Dear Parish Family,

These are unusual times; there are so many instructions out there. This is not another set of instructions but, rather, a guide, in these challenging times, to make worship of our Loving God in the celebration of Sacraments more meaningful. Despite many inconveniences experienced in the past several days and with the forecast of many more ahead, let us not forget our call as Christians to pray for and with all people.

Based on the changes outlined in the Pastoral Letter from Bishop Michael Olson (<https://fwdioc.org/news-3-18-20-bp-olson-pastoral-letter-coronavirus-updated-en.pdf>), the following will be immediately implemented at our parish.

- Mass will be held on our normal daily and weekend schedule, without a congregation present in the Church but with communion distributed outside.
- During weekend Masses, communion will be distributed at 3 stations – by the Narthex Entrance, by the North Entrance, and by the South Entrance. For daily Masses, communion will be distributed at the North and South Entrances.
- Those wishing to receive communion should remain in their cars until they see the communion minister come outside (about 20 – 25 minutes after Mass begins), that is, for 6:00 p.m. Mass, distribution of communion will commence between 6:20 – 6:25 p.m.
- At the time of distribution of communion, those wishing to receive communion can exit their cars, keeping a safe distance from each other, and approach to receive communion in their hands.

In addition to these changes regarding Mass, the following will be in place:

- The Church will remain open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. for personal prayer. Please remember to keep a safe distance from others who may be praying.
- Confession will be offered in the confessional from 4:30 – 5:45 p.m. on Saturdays. The ushers will let in 3 people (max.) at a time to be present inside the church.
- Communion to the sick and homebound parishioners will be available. Please contact our parish acolyte Mr. Terry Timmons at (254)580-2228.
- For Anointing of the Sick, please contact me at (254)246-9997.
- The parish office will be open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Since parish general operations need to continue, you are urged to be aware of the needs of our parish and continue to extend your stewardship to the parish.
- All other events and ministry gatherings at the parish premises are cancelled until further notice, including Stations of the Cross, Lenten Penance Service, and Faith Formation.

Please contact the parish office if you have any questions or concerns. Be assured of my continued prayers in this time of uncertainty!

Grace and Peace in Christ Jesus,

Rev. Brijil Lawrence
Pastor