

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

These have indeed been very strange days for all of us and I pray that you and your loved ones are safe and well. As we continue to weather this storm together, I wanted to reach out to you and express our desire to try to establish some sort of communication during this difficult time.

Firstly, I hope that you know that we are concerned about you and want you to please contact us if we can be of service to you in anyway. If you call the rectory number, 201-261-3366; you will hear a recorded message that lists a phone number which you can call directly to one of our priests if you are experiencing a true emergency. Otherwise, you will be directed to our webpage where you will be able to access our personal email addresses and make contact with us in that manner. It might be helpful also to check our webpage occasionally to find out about updated news about the parish. Our parish bulletin will continue to be posted on the webpage also.

It is my hope that we will be able to begin live-streaming a celebration of the Mass as soon as possible. We are researching how to get this up and running. In the meantime, our webpage has listed websites where you can access the Mass celebrated at various locations. Our church will be open for prayer every day from 9AM to 6PM for private prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

We are particularly concerned about the welfare of our homebound and elderly parishioners. If you know of anyone of your neighbors who is in need, please inform us so that we might respond. In the meantime, our pastoral staff will continue to respond to your needs to the extent that we are able. Please let us know how we might assist you.

While it is heartbreaking to have to close our churches, never underestimate the power of your personal prayer. We will get through this together. I know that you all understand that it does not take a pandemic to remind us that we are one human family and that we need one another. Let us remember that social distancing is not the same as social isolation. We need each other most especially at this time. As our upcoming Easter celebrations reminds us, what emerged from the bad news of the cross was the Good News of salvation. Crisis holds the opportunity to become the community we have said we were or want to be. God's grace holds the upper hand, but waits for us to use it to make a better world. Please take good care everyone.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Mike Sheehan and
Our Pastoral Staff