



EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

WORSHIP AND EVENTS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC CRISIS

Brothers and Sisters,

On March 16, 2020, our Bishop issued Diocesan guidelines on how we are to proceed during this pandemic. These guidelines are to be in place at least until April 20. Among her guidelines are: canceling of all public events involving more than 10 persons, including classes, rehearsals and meetings; and, all in-person public worship services.

In light of this crisis, we are cancelling all non-essential ministry meetings, events and activities during this time. This includes: our Friday Lenten Stations of the Cross services with the attendant soup suppers, bible studies; any scheduled or planned parish social functions; ministry meetings that might include more than 9 attendees; all outside outreach events on our campus; all home or institutional visits to the sick or infirm.

Rev. Milhoan and I will, in conjunction with our Pastoral Care Ministers, call and check in on those who are homebound or institutionalized. We will continue to have our Food Pantry Ministry functioning to provide needed food for the poor and needy.

Our church office will continue to be open as usual. However, if you feel you need to come to the office during this period, please call first.

We will not be having publically attended worship services during this period. However, Rev. Milhoan and I will be providing worship services online. Beginning this Sunday, March 22, and the succeeding Sundays during this pandemic situation, he and I will be streaming Sunday worship services at 10:00 a.m. During this period, we will broadcast Sunday worship on our Facebook page. On that page, just click "Like" and then follow it. You may access our Facebook page via our website, www.stjohnsaz.org. And, of course, there will not be a communion component to our streamed worship service.

As for our regular Wednesday evening services, beginning March 25, we will be streaming Evening Prayer services. Again, you may access those services in the same manner in which Sunday services will be available.

Please pray for the church, each other, and the nation as we journey forth during this trying time. Rev. Milhoan and I are available if you need personal prayer. The Church will go forth no matter what. Nothing can separate us from the love of God or the Gospel of Our Savior.

In Christ,

The Rev. Bruce A. Jackson, Rector