

March 18, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May God's peace always be yours in this time of great uncertainty. I received an email this morning from our bishop. Please be attentive to the following:

- Throughout the Dioceses within the state of Florida, **effective at 5 PM**, regularly scheduled celebration of Masses and other liturgical events for the faithful in parish churches and other public sanctuaries are suspended until further notice in cooperation with efforts to contain the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). **Visitation to the churches to pray is also suspended. Any parish event or ministry event – e.g. prayer groups, bible studies, etc. – are suspended or postponed.**
- **Funerals, or other celebrations which perhaps cannot be postponed - baptisms or weddings - may be celebrated with immediate family members only who are not sick and are not advised by their doctors to self-quarantine.**
- **Priests will celebrate daily Mass for the intentions of the faithful albeit without their presence.** Because most of the church staff will be working remotely, for emergency situations, please contact the church answering service: 407-293-0730 or use the parish email: [standrewchurch@standrew-orlando.org](mailto:standrewchurch@standrew-orlando.org).

If you know of any parishioners who do not have email, please share this information with them.

I know many of us are shocked and dismayed by this information and the spread of the virus, for this has never happened before. As I mentioned in the last email, we continue to pray; knowing that God is our rock and our deliverer. Let this very awkward time of social distancing be an opportunity for us to cultivate a closer relationship with God, and to deepen our connections with all those who are affected by this pandemic. We are the Body of Christ, and the Body of Christ needs healing and wisdom as we go forward. Let us pray for one another. Seemingly, our Holy Week has come early. We wait for the Resurrection. I will keep you informed.

Always, may God's peace be yours,  
Fr. Leo

**In addition to the Gospel Reflection Book that was given out at Advent, below are a number of resources compiled by the diocese that can help the faithful remain in prayer and draw near to God during this holy season of Lent.**

Catholics can make an Act of Spiritual Communion. It has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion means uniting one's self in prayer with Christ's sacrifice and worshiping Him in His Body and Blood. The most common reason for making an Act of Spiritual Communion is when a person cannot attend Mass. Acts of Spiritual Communion increase our desire to receive sacramental Communion and help us avoid the sins that would make us unable to receive Holy Communion worthily.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You

are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,

and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment

receive You sacramentally,

come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there

and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

**Faith Fit App:** Tune into faith-filled podcasts by local Catholics plus special presentations featuring Catholic speakers, singers, musicians & more! Download the app at <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/faith-fit-app/id1435157037>

Free Access to Give Us This Day: <https://giveusthisday.org/Digital>

USCCB:

Prayer Resources: <http://www.usccb.org/coronavirus>

Daily Readings: <http://www.usccb.org/>

EWTN Television: <https://www.ewtn.com/tv>

[CCTN](#) – the Catholic Community Television Network – is broadcast from a TV studio operated by Holy Family Parish in Orlando. CCTN televises the Sunday Mass and other spiritually enriching programs. The Mass is broadcast every Sunday from 2:00 pm. – 3:00 p.m. on WTGL-TV 45. This station is available on various channels, depending on your service provider. Please check with your service provider for details. CCTN also utilizes online media avenues such as YouTube to showcase special productions, such as homilies from Holy Family Parish; short biographies of saints; and the reading of the Gospel, complete with images. Subscribe to the CCTN YouTube Channel by clicking [here](#).

Talk / Devotional English Adults – [Divine Mercy Radio \(WDMC 920 AM\)](#), an approved apostolate led by Bob Groppe, purchased a “fixer upper” frequency and station in 2008. The majority of their programming is provided from EWTN and they also air locally produced programs. Their studio is located in Melbourne and their broadcast is heard in Brevard County and parts of Volusia and Orange counties (as well as two other counties outside of the Diocese of Orlando). They promote their apostolate as “Catholic Radio for Florida’s Space and Treasure Coast.” A priest of the diocese sits on the board of Divine Mercy Radio.

Talk / Devotional English Adults – [Relevant Radio](#)

Eustis – 90.3 FM WIGW

Orlando – 1080 AM WHOO

Orlando – 1190 AM WAMT

Relevant Radio provides programming that speaks to the human condition, helping to bridge the gap between faith and everyday life. The network produces a variety of popular and exciting programs to help strengthen the family, solve everyday problems, and raise the heart and mind to God.

Tell us who you are so that we might pray for you: [prayer@orlandodiocese.org](mailto:prayer@orlandodiocese.org)