

Never Isolated in Christ

YOUR WEEKLY SIX-FOOT VIEW FROM ASSUMPTION PARISH
APRIL 02, 2020

*For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel:
By waiting and by calm you shall be saved,
in quiet and in trust shall be your strength.*

*Truly, the LORD is waiting to be gracious to you,
truly, he shall rise to show you mercy;
For the LORD is a God of justice:
happy are all who wait for him!*

-Isaiah 30:15, 18

Pastor's Note

Dear Assumption Parishioners,

We find ourselves at an odd crossroads in this time of self-isolation. On the one hand, every day still seems to bring new updates and new policies. On the other hand, we are all beginning to face the reality that this period of isolation will likely last through April and possibly into May. Many of us have struggled to create a “new normal” while everything remains in flux, and yet we know that we need to establish some form of routine for our own sanity.

I know that many of you have made the parish part of your new daily routine by tuning in to our daily Masses and Holy Hours. I am deeply grateful that you have done so, and I pray that God is giving you innumerable graces through your daily (remote) participation in our communal prayer. This is not the Lent that any of us wanted, but I am starting to believe that it is going to have been one of the most personally fruitful Lents I have ever experienced. God really can use anything for His good!

This letter only contains *updates*, so I encourage you to look back at past Coronavirus letters posted on our parish website for additional information about our parish's response.

You are ever in my heart and in my prayers,

F. Moore

All Parish Activities Canceled through April 17th

When the Archbishop suspended public Masses, we initially decided to suspend all parish meetings and activities through April 3rd (which, at the time, was three weeks away!). Now that April 3rd is almost here, we need to **extend this blanket cancelation through April 17th**. We will likely need to continue extending this date, but with everything changing so rapidly all the time, we are going to approach this question week-by-week.

Holy Week and Streaming Schedule

As I mentioned last week, our parishioners will be asked to celebrate Holy Week and Easter from their homes. It is heartbreaking that our community cannot come together to celebrate the holiest days of our year, but our parish will do its best to stream these liturgies with dignity and reverence so that we can all at least be united in prayer.

For convenience, we are providing the liturgy schedule through Easter below. **These are the times when these liturgies can be attended “live”.** However, a recording of all the liturgies will also be available once the liturgy has concluded. All liturgies can be found live and recorded at <https://www.facebook.com/catholicjeffreyhmoore>.

Remainder of this week:

- Thursday, April 02 – **9:00 a.m.** Mass with Holy Hour
- Friday, April 03 – **9:00 a.m.** Mass with Holy Hour, **6:00 p.m.** Stations of the Cross

Holy Week:

- Saturday, April 04 – **3:45 p.m.** Holy Hour, **5:00 p.m.** English Sunday Mass (for Palm Sunday)
- Sunday, April 05 – **11:15 a.m.** Holy Hour, **12:30 p.m.** Spanish Sunday Mass (for Palm Sunday)
- Monday, April 06 – **9:00 a.m.** Mass with Holy Hour
- Tuesday, April 07 – **9:00 a.m.** Mass with Holy Hour
- Wednesday, April 08 – **9:00 a.m.** Mass with Holy Hour

Triduum:

- Holy Thursday, April 09 – **7:00 p.m.** Bilingual Mass of the Lord’s Supper, followed by Holy Hour
- Good Friday, April 10 – **3:00 p.m.** Bilingual Passion of the Lord (no Holy Hour)
- Holy Saturday, April 11 – **8:30 p.m.** Bilingual Easter Vigil (no Holy Hour)
- Easter Sunday, April 12 – **8:00 a.m.** English Mass, **9:30 a.m.** Holy Hour, **12:30 p.m.** Spanish Mass

Parish Financial Update

We have been humbled and overwhelmed by the extreme generosity of our parishioners. Despite the economic uncertainty of this time, our people have been very dedicated to continuing to send in their weekly or monthly donations. We have also had more than a few parishioners give large gifts, to try to help us through this extended period without normal Sunday collections. Due to this extreme generosity, **the parish is currently exactly where we had projected to be** before the Coronavirus lock down. We have not yet been hit by these extraordinary circumstances. **Praise God and thank you!**

However, we also know that much of this success is due to some large, generous gifts, which will not be occurring every week. So **your continued dedication to ordinary, weekly giving** is still very important for the long-term health of the parish. We know that people care very deeply about our parish, so we will continue to provide regular financial updates.

Some people have asked and, yes, we are still receiving our mail. Any donations sent through the mail are being counted and deposited weekly.

Updated Funeral and Mass Policies

Last Saturday, Governor Inslee made two updates to the “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” directive which affected Archdiocesan policies in the following way:

1. While funeral Masses are still not permitted, graveside services are allowed with only immediate family in attendance and everyone remaining six feet apart from each other. For Assumption parishioners, I would recommend the following:
 - a. If a loved one is to be cremated, ask the funeral home to hold the remains until restrictions are lifted, and then we will offer a funeral Mass as normal.
 - b. If a loved one is to be buried whole, we will do a graveside service immediately, and will do a memorial Mass (like a funeral, without the body present) once restrictions are lifted.

2. The governor clarified that we are allowed to have ministers assist at the liturgy when necessary. For Assumption, this means that we will again have music at our major online liturgies. We are still deciding what are ministry needs might be for Holy Week.

Resources for Praying at Home

Please visit the homepage of our website for a good number of resources for praying at home and growing in the faith during this time. Go to <http://assumption.org/> and scroll to the bottom.

Home Altars

We know that many parishioners are setting up “home altars” for the streaming Masses, and we would love to feature some of those here. If you would like to share your set up with others, please send pictures to fmoore@assumption.org. On the next page, you can see the home altar of the Janaszak family.

