

Never Isolated in Christ

YOUR WEEKLY SIX-FOOT VIEW FROM ASSUMPTION PARISH

APRIL 08, 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,

"My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" These words from Psalm 22, which Jesus cried out to his Father as he died on the Cross, are some of the most haunting words in the entire Bible. How could Jesus, the Son of God, feel abandoned by God? How did it come to this? And if Jesus felt abandoned, how much more must we feel abandoned, especially during our own crises and trials?

The fact that all of his friends and followers had fled could not have helped. Jesus was, in a sense, also left only with his household: his mother, St. John, and St. Mary Magdalene. If anyone can relate to the isolation and abandonment that we all are feeling right now, it is Jesus on the Cross.

I hope we can use our isolation and abandonment to grow closer to him. I hope all of these pent up, negative emotions we are feeling after so many weeks inside, with so many weeks left to go, can be used to bring us closer to the Cross. We know that the Cross leads to the Resurrection, sure, *but we are not there yet*. The next few days are all about the Cross, and as Christians we are called to embrace it.

May it please God, we will never have to be apart for our high holy days ever again. But this year, this unique, once-in-a-century year, we will know the isolation and abandonment that Jesus felt. We will be next to our Lord in his suffering. I am not courageous or holy enough to choose the sufferings of Jesus voluntarily, but this year, when they are offered to me, I hope to be humble enough to accept them as a gift. There is nothing I desire more than to be close to the Lord, and he will use even this to fulfill that desire.

May the Lord bless you and your families, as he draws you closer to himself,

F. Moore

Holy Week and Streaming Schedule

As a reminder, here is the upcoming liturgy schedule. **These are the times when these liturgies can be attended “live” on Facebook.** 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>.

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

Afterwards:

- Mon. – Fri., **9:00 a.m.** Mass, followed by Holy Hour
- Saturday, **3:45 p.m.** Holy Hour, **5:00 p.m.** English “Sunday” Mass
- Sunday, **11:15 a.m.** Holy Hour, **12:30 p.m.** Spanish Sunday Mass

School Tuition Assistance

At the end of March, the school recorded \$7,000 in unpaid tuition for that month (compared to less than \$500 for February), which we have to assume is due to the Coronavirus economic slowdown. We also have to assume this number is going to be higher in April and May. With so many businesses slowed or shuttered, some of our school families are going to begin to struggle, and parishioners have asked how they can help. After all, our school is an important ministry of our parish, and we want to ensure that no one has to walk away from a Catholic education because of this temporary setback.

In addition to continuing to support the parish (*another **thank you!** to everyone who has been so faithful in sending in your tithes*), if you would like to support struggling school families, you can do so by e-mailing Principal Dan Anderson (danderson@school.assumption.org) with the amount you would like to designate. Or you can send a donation to Assumption Catholic School, 2116 Cornwall Ave., Bellingham, WA 98225 and write, "Tuition Assistance- COVID-19" in the memo line. (Note: For the donation to be tax deductible, it may not be designated for a specific family but needs to be a general donation for tuition assistance.)

Thank you for your continued generosity towards your community, your parish, and your local Catholic school.

All On-Campus Parish Activities Canceled through May 04th

The day after we sent our previous letter, Governor Inslee extended his “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” order to May 04th. As such, all of our on-campus parish activities remain canceled through that day.

However, many of us are quickly learning how to work and meet from home, so it may be time to start thinking about virtual gatherings. Any ministry or prayer group leaders who feel up to it are certainly encouraged to get creative with telephones or teleconferencing. After Easter, Fr. Moore may try to lead by example by getting more creative than just streaming Masses. We’ll see. Stay tuned!

Videos from Archbishop Etienne

The Archbishop has asked us to share some video messages from him. Click the links to view them.

[April 1](#) | [Holy Thursday](#) | [Good Friday](#)

Resources for Praying along with the Triduum

The Archdiocese has created excellent guides to help families pray along with the Triduum at home. Please click the below links to view them.

[Holy Thursday \(English\)](#) | [Jueves Santo \(Español\)](#)

[Good Friday \(English\)](#) | [Viernes Santo \(Español\)*](#)

[Easter Sunday \(English\)*](#) | [Domingo de Pascua \(Español\)*](#)

(*Not yet published when this letter was written. When they are published, they can be found on [this website](#).)

Home Altars

A few families sent pictures of their “home altars” for streaming Masses. They come to us from the Reimer, Hawkes, and Suel families. Additional pictures of your celebrations at home can be sent to frmoore@assumption.org, to be featured in future letters.



