



CHURCH OF SAINT ROSE

BELMAR, NJ

March 16, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

In response to the latest guidelines from national and state health authorities aimed at stopping the spread of the coronavirus disease, I want to share with you a message Bishop David M. O'Connell has directed to all the priests and faithful of the Diocese of Trenton. (Words in bold are from the Bishop's directives; what follows pertains to St. Rose Church.)

****All public Masses throughout the Diocese of Trenton will be temporarily suspended through April 3, 2020. That date is subject to change as the coronavirus pandemic evolves.***

All 6:45 AM Mass intentions will be transferred to the 9 AM weekday Mass which will be live streamed starting Monday, March 23rd.

All weekend 7 AM, 8:30, 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM Sunday intentions will be transferred to 5 PM Saturday and 11:30 AM Sunday, which will be live streamed starting March 23rd.

For public safety and at the direction of Bishop O'Connell and the State of NJ, no parishioners or guests will be allowed in the church during the live stream of Mass.

****Baptisms, funerals and weddings may continue based on the judgement of pastors, with the caution that crowds should not exceed 50 persons as mandated by the State of a New Jersey.***

Funerals for parishioners and weddings can have only up to 50 people. Weddings can be rescheduled for a later date. Please call the office as soon as possible.

****Churches should remain open for prayer, private devotion and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.***

St. Rose Church will remain open for prayer and private devotion from 10 AM until 5 PM daily except during live stream masses. In light of the changes, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be on Monday's from 6:30-7:30 with confessions available for the remainder of Lent.

****The Sacrament of Penance should remain available according to need, but public Penance Services are not to be conducted.***

Confessions will be heard on Saturday's from 4-4:45 PM and Monday's from 6:30-7:15 PM for the remainder of Lent or by appointment.

****The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick should also remain available for true emergencies.***

If you are in need of a priest call the office and leave a message on the emergency line.

All schools, religious education programs, adult faith formation and social events are all cancelled. The St. Rose Church offices will only be open Tuesdays and Thursdays but no public visitors will be allowed. If you are in need of a mass card or other administrative services, please call the office (732-681-0512).

Our lives and day to day routines have been changed by the pandemic. All of us are asked to cooperate with these directives and guidelines for the common good of all concerned. Patience is the key for everyone. While all of us adjust to this "new normal", let us remember as people of faith God has not abandoned us and is present among us. As our Bishop has mentioned in his directives, ***"... we need to have faith and confidence in God, especially in times like these, praying that He will see us through the present adversity safely."***

I commend all of you to the loving care of Our Blessed Mother, and ask God to bless you and your family!

Father Edward J. Arnister

Prayer 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."

For the entire Bishop's letter follow this link: <http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/coronavirus>

For a list of streamed or recorded Masses available online, or television stations airing the Sunday Mass <https://trentonmonitor.com/Content/News/Latest-News/Article/Local-parishes-televiselivestream-Masses/4/38/22775>

