

Dear Parishioners,

This morning, March 19, I celebrated a private Mass in the rectory. I am holding up in prayer all of you and the needs of our nation and world. It is the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. St. Joseph is the Protector of the Family. In these days of dealing with the Coronavirus Pandemic, we have a powerful intercessor in St. Joseph. St. Bernadine wrote of St. Joseph...”He was chosen by the eternal Father as the trustworthy guardian and protector of His greatest treasures, namely, his divine Son and Mary, Joseph’s wife. He carried out this vocation with complete fidelity until at last God called him, saying: Good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of your Lord”.

I encourage you to spend extra time in prayer, praying the rosary, watching the televised Mass, breaking open the scripture readings of the day, reciting the Stations of the Cross, and checking out the numerous prayer aids on the Diocesan website and through “Formed”, an online teaching resource. Please call the office (763-689-1221) with questions regarding reconciliation.

Bishop Kettler has suspended all public weekday and weekend Masses in the Diocese of Saint Cloud, effective immediately through Easter Monday, April 13. All Catholics in the diocese remain dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass during this time. There are many other directives offered in the letter that can be found on our diocesan website. More details will be forthcoming regarding the celebration of Palm Sunday and Holy Week Liturgies.

I am working closely with staff as we navigate through uncharted territory. Staffing hours are likely to change. Bills still keep coming in and I encourage you to remain committed to financially supporting our parishes. Let us lift each other in prayer.

We end in prayer: Remember us Saint Joseph, and plead for us to your foster-child. Ask your most holy bride, the Virgin Mary, to look kindly upon us, since she is the mother of him who with the Father and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns eternally. Amen.