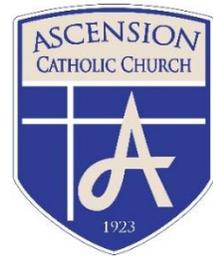


ASCENSION CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Monday, January 11, 2021

Dear Ascension Parishioners,

It has been a little more than a week since I experienced the first symptoms of Covid-19, and almost a week for Fr. Lampe. At present, we continue to do well. The days are spent quietly in our rooms, quarantining from the other priests and wearing our masks whenever we leave our room to go to the kitchen or daily walks.

Frs. Bockskopf and Schumacher along with Deacon Joe Detwiler have also been quarantining in the Rectory maintaining proper distancing when outside their rooms. So far, they have exhibited no symptoms of the virus.

Deacon Joe Detwiler left on Sunday for a separate location. While maintaining his quarantine, he will make his retreat this week, isolated, but checking daily with his retreat director. This is what's called a "canonical" retreat taken by all those approaching ordination. Please remember him especially during this retreat.

During this time, I want to assure you that the intentions of the parish remain in the forefront of our prayers. While we cannot offer Mass publicly, we are privately praying for you and our community. I suppose it helps living on the campus as we hear and see the activity of the parish and schools around us which nurtures our desire to lift you up in prayer.

In addition to the Rectory, the Parish Office Staff has also been at home during this time. According to the established protocols, they too have to monitor their health more carefully since they may have been exposed to the virus. Due to New Year's, I was not around any staff members since December 31 and Fr. Lampe had minimal exposure as he passed through the office on Tuesday. So far, none of the staff is showing any symptoms. Please keep them in your prayers.

Presuming things continue as they are, we intend to resume public Masses on January 18th with our regular daily schedule and the parish offices will again open as well. Thanks to our educational leaders and teachers who have continued to maintain the programs as scheduled. I'm grateful for their constancy in these trying times.

All the best to you and yours. And thanks to the those bringing food. At this point we need no more meals except those already planned. Just send prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. Thomas M. Molini". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Rev. Thomas M. Molini
Pastor