

Dear parishioners of St. Patrick Catholic Church,

These past weeks have brought on many situations which are new, painful and unimaginable for all locally and around the world. The very fact that the public daily Mass and Sunday Masses are celebrated without your presence is painful and surreal. I pray for each of you and that virus and its impact will soon end.

As your pastor, I have had to make some difficult decisions about our parish which have been some of the most difficult in my 35+ years of priesthood. After consulting with my finance chair, my trustees, our parish business manager, deacon and parish council president it is painfully apparent we must reduce our parish's cash-outflow. Together with these dedicated and capable parishioners' counsel, I have made the following changes as of April 1st. Four staff members have been placed on furlough. Four other staff members have had their hours reduced. These staffing decisions will be re-evaluated once the pandemic subsides.

These changes are, in no way, a reflection of these staff members' performance, value and talents but due to the troubled times which we are experiencing. The affected staff members represent years of faithful service, exemplary dedication to the parish and visionary ministry. I am grateful to each of them. This being said, the parish situation necessitated this action. I look forward to the future when the pandemic is history and we may gather again for Mass and normal life. I look forward to when our parish staff is again fully functioning and ministering to the needs of our community.

If you would like to express your gratitude and support to our staff, please do so with your prayers, cards and phone calls.

Respectfully in Christ,

Fr. Allen R. Kuss
St. Patrick Catholic Church, Pastor