



DIVINE MERCY

Catholic Church

March 18, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

The seven Bishops of Florida, including Bishop Noonan, gathered for a conference this morning. After prayerful counsel, they decided in a joint declaration for all dioceses throughout Florida to embrace the following precautionary measures in order to contain the spread of the coronavirus in our region. These precautions go into effect at the end of day today, Wednesday, March 18:

Regularly scheduled celebrations of Masses and other liturgical events for the faithful in parish churches are suspended until further notice

Visitation to churches to pray is suspended

Parish events and ministries are suspended or postponed (our celebration of Confirmation has been postponed)

Priests will celebrate daily Mass for the intentions of the faithful but without the presence of the faithful

In addition, our Parish Staff will be available to take calls from 9am to noon Monday through Thursday. The office will be closed on Fridays. Of course, emergency calls will always be handled.

In these uncertain times it is important that we keep our focus on the Lord who is King and Victor. He will lead us out of the darkness of sickness, fear and anxiety into the green pastures of faith, hope and love. Please consider these suggestions for staying spiritually strong:

All parishioners have access to Formed, an online site with a variety of excellent Catholic resources for prayer, reflection and learning. Log on to divinemeracyfl.formed.org

Deacon Jack and Donna Alexander have invited us all to pray the rosary each night at 7:30pm in our own homes.

Even though we cannot be physically together we can be united spiritually in this powerful prayer

I hate to discuss finances at a time like this, however the Parish's expenses will not cease, so if possible, continue to send in your offertory or sign up for online giving on the parish website: divinemeracychurch.org

Please be assured of my prayers for your safety, health and wellbeing. I will continue to communicate updates and information as they become available. Be faithful in practicing precautions for the benefit of you, your family and others. May God bless us and bring us peace.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Matt

Resources are available to help the faithful remain in prayer and draw near to God during this holy season of Lent. These resources are posted below and this list will be updated as we learn more from our parishes.



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Resources

- **Faith Fit App:** Tune into faith-filled podcasts by local Catholics plus special presentations featuring Catholic speakers, singers, musicians & more! Download the app at <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/faith-fit-app/id1435157037> or Google Play: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.jacapps.faithfit>
- **Free Access to Give Us This Day:** <https://giveusthisday.org/Digital>
- **USCCB:** Prayer Resources: <http://www.usccb.org/coronavirus>
Daily Readings: <http://www.usccb.org/>
- **EWTN Television:** <https://www.ewtn.com/tv>
- **CCTN** – the Catholic Community Television Network – is broadcast from a TV studio operated by Holy Family Parish in Orlando. CCTN televises the Sunday Mass and other spiritually enriching programs. The Mass is broadcast every Sunday from 2:00 pm. – 3:00 p.m. on WTGL-TV 45. This station is available on various channels, depending on your service provider. Please check with your service provider for details. CCTN also utilizes online media avenues such as YouTube to showcase special productions, such as homilies from Holy Family Parish; short biographies of saints; and the reading of the Gospel, complete with images. Subscribe to the CCTN YouTube Channel by clicking here.
- **Talk / Devotional English Adults** – Divine Mercy Radio (WDMC 920 AM), an approved apostolate led by Bob Groppe, purchased a “fixer upper” frequency and station in 2008. The majority of their programming is provided from EWTN and they also air locally produced programs. Their studio is located in Melbourne and their broadcast is heard in Brevard County and parts of Volusia and Orange counties (as well as two other counties outside of the Diocese of Orlando). They promote their apostolate as “Catholic Radio for Florida’s Space and Treasure Coast.” A priest of the diocese sits on the board of Divine Mercy Radio.