



8694 80TH STREET SOUTH, COTTAGE GROVE, MN 55016 | PHONE: 651-459-4596 | WWW.SAINTRITAS.ORG

Dear Church of St. Rita Families,

I am communicating with you today because there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 at our parish. Medical privacy laws limit the information we are able to share, but I can tell you the person who has tested positive is a staff person.

The parish staff immediately contacted the Archdiocese and the Minnesota Department of Health to report the case and we are working with their team to make sure the person infected is receiving the medical care they need. Right now, the staff member is doing well and is experiencing minimal symptoms.

To make sure we are doing all we can to limit the spread of the virus, we are closely following the Minnesota Department of Health directives. MDH has directed us to contact those that had contact with the infected person at the time they were contagious and ask them to be tested and quarantine for 14 days. We can report to you that all persons that qualified under the MDH guidelines have been contacted.

The Archdiocese and the Minnesota Department of Health has informed us that we can continue with our normal church operations including masses, confessions and office hours. We will also continue our sanitizing and cleaning protocols for our entire campus to help keep everyone safe and healthy.

We will also continue to live stream Mass on facebook to keep you connected to our parish community.

Let us together trust in Jesus, who throughout the ages in times of uncertainty and trial, never fails us.

Our Lady, Comfort of the Sick, pray for us!

God is Good!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Fr. Mark Joppa'.

Fr. Mark Joppa, Pastor
Church of St. Rita