

March 12, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

I have been following with great interest the information that continues to come to us about COVID-19 which is commonly known as the Corona Virus. Like many of you, I have struggled to discern what exactly is happening as the situation is fluid and the information given can even seem to contradict other information that is being given. I take very seriously my role as Pastor of Saint Michael and want to act in such a way that our people are safe.

Archbishop Thompson has decided that, effective immediately, and until further notice, the faithful of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis are hereby dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. We are working on other questions surrounding the celebration of Sunday Mass. These too, I hope to communicate to you tomorrow.

Vulnerable adults and children, including those with weakened or compromised immune systems, are encouraged to stay home from Mass. If you are sick or are showing symptoms of being sick, please stay home as an act of charity. For those who do attend Mass, please maintain distance and spread out in the Parish Life Center or chapel.

I realize that these actions may seem extreme and will cause hardship, but I assure you that they are not taken lightly and have been done after much consultation with the state and Archdiocese of Indianapolis. I have no doubt that our community will come through this global pandemic and we will do so by looking out for and taking care of one another.

*Heavenly Father,
We come before you thankful for your many gifts.
Please come to the assistance of all who are sick,
Give them healing, comfort and peace,
Protect their caregivers, families and friends.
If we suffer, may we do it in union with Christ on His cross.
In Jesus's Holy Name we pray.
Amen!
Saint Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, Pray for Us!*

May God bless all of you and please know of my prayers for you. We will be in touch as I receive more information.

Sincerely,

Father Aaron Jenkins