



# CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

## ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Phone: (518) 477-7925

March 25, 2020

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus be with you! It is my hope that this letter finds you and your family coping well with the current health alerts around COVID-19 and its extraordinary impact on everyday life. As the Pastor of the Church of Holy Spirit, I am here to server, assist, and guide you as we are going through this crisis together. Bishop Scharfenberger wrote this message in his column: *“Corona,” however ironically, means “crown.” By all means, we should wash our hands and keep a distance when we cough or sneeze, and maybe bump elbows until spring instead of shaking hands. But now, more than ever, we need to stay close to one another, crowning one another with care and affection, and not allowing the predicted “new social distancing” to separate us from our families, friends and neighbors. They need us, more than ever, just to love them through.”*

Church of the Holy Spirit has been part of your family for almost 100 years. Many of you received sacraments such as Baptism, First Eucharist, Confirmation, Holy Matrimony through this church. We share with each other the laughs, tears, joys, sorrows, and the ups and downs of life we have gone together. During this time of the COVID-19 crisis, the Holy Spirit parish community continues to serve you and the local community. I want you to know that your prayers and intentions have been remembered in my private mass. Our Social Action ministry is actively reaching out to those are home-abound and in the assisted living. They also assist and volunteer to shop for seniors who need help. The parish is also trying to live-stream the mass on the website so that you can see the mass from your home. Our parish staff is working remotely from their home to assist you during this difficult time.

Just as this crisis of COVID-19 outbreak has a negative economic impact on our families and business, so it is on our parish offertory which is our principal source of revenue to fund the mission of our church. I am asking for your prayerful consideration to continue your offertory support our parish either online (E-giving) [holyspiritcg.weconnect.com/online-giving](http://holyspiritcg.weconnect.com/online-giving) or simply mail in your weekly envelope. I am grateful and thankful for your generosity and kindness.

As we continue to face this health emergency crisis together, please be assured of my prayers for you and your family. We must live in FAITH not Fear as we recall the words of St. Paul says *“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”* (Philippians 4:6-7). While we may not see our parish family at mass each week until this situation improves, on behalf of our parish staff, Deacon Bill, an myself, we pray that God continues to protect you and keep you. Wishing you and your family a Happy Easter. May the Risen Lord Jesus fill your heart with His peace and joy!

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Quy N. Vo, Pastor