

Dear Friends,

Like most of you, I have been sheltering in place during this eerie and uncertain time of dealing with the threat of the Coronavirus (COVID19). There is great somberness surrounding us and our churches have been left empty and silent. None of us have ever experienced anything like this before.

For the first time ever, people have been asked to stay at home from church. This is not a decision that has been made lightly. Through war, famine, economic disaster, and plague, the life of the Church has continued. Now, we are being urged to stay home out of concern for the well-being of all the faithful and to thwart the spread of a very contagious and lethal virus. In a very real way, this is a type of “death”. Even so, the Eucharistic Feast continues even in the private celebrations of Christ’s priests.

The spread of COVID19 has wreaked havoc on the world. The pandemic has touched everyone’s life. The economic effect is being dramatically felt and the long-term effects remain to be seen. The toll it is taking on those who have contracted the virus is immeasurable. The way that it has stretched the health care system is unfathomable. The way that it has taxed our medical professionals and law enforcement personnel is astounding. These everyday heroes are demonstrating an inspiring courage and charity by their willingness to go right into the front lines of this battle.

There is a heavy cross that is placed upon our shoulders during this time. The fact that all of this is happening during the Lenten season is not coincidence. In a way we are all entering into the “valley of death” as we endure this trial. It has called upon all of us to draw upon new resources to deal with the situation. What is interesting is that all of this has happened during a time when technology is ripe for providing means of communication that were previously not possible. Here at St. Pius X, we have made efforts to keep people connected to their faith via live-streamed Masses and other devotions. Nevertheless, we still are experiencing the great absence of the Eucharistic Presence in our lives.

This is what I mean by referring to the “Valley of Death”. We are struggling with missing something that perhaps we didn’t fully realize was so vitally important to us namely, the Eucharist. For those who make daily or weekly attendance at Mass a priority, the inability to participate in Mass is heartbreaking. The impossibility to receive the Lord in the Eucharist is equally heart-wrenching. This is indeed a kind of death.

We can handle many different kinds of deaths in our lives, but those deaths that are spiritual are unbearable. It is one thing to suffer physical death. It is another to experience the death of the soul. Perhaps that is what the silver lining is in all of this. Even in the darkest moments of our world, the Light of Christ shines. It seems to me that in God’s permissive will, he has allowed this pandemic in order to resurrect us from the spiritual death that has long had its grip on humanity.

Gradually, there has been an eroding of spiritual awareness in our society. Too many people have left behind their dedication to faith. It seems to me that, through this, God is bringing to light a greater awareness of our need for him. Prayer has been burgeoning throughout the world. People have been turning to God. The alienation from the life of the Church has built up a greater longing for that which we have taken for granted. People’s souls

have been brought back to life as they begin to respond to the call to prayer. In all of the struggle through this pandemic, Jesus has called out to us "Come out!", like he did when he called Lazarus forth from the grave.

Our spiritual selves have been bound up and Jesus is commanding that those bands that have tied us up be taken off so that we may be set free. We don't know what the days ahead will be like. We aren't sure what trials we will face economically, emotionally, or spiritually. What we do know is that in whatever "death" we may experience, there is one thing for sure, our souls will be much more alive because of our faith. We just need to allow the Lord to unbind us and set us free!

God bless.

*Fr. Paul*

#### **Mass Contributions**

Please continue to support your church during this time. You can easily contribute online by going to [spxcc.org](http://spxcc.org) and clicking on the "Online Giving" tab.

If you prefer, you may mail your donation to 5620 Gollihar Rd, Corpus Christi, TX 78412, or you may drop it by the locked mailbox outside the parish office.

#### **COVID-19 Announcements**

**Masses & Baptisms Suspended:** Due to the ongoing Coronavirus threat and the "Stay-at-home" order implemented by the city and county, Masses have been suspended at least until April 8, 2020. Also, out of great caution for the protection of babies and families, baptisms have also been temporarily suspended.

**Masses will be live-streamed** on Facebook on Sundays at 10:00 am and weekdays at 8:15 am (Monday - Saturday). Go to [www.Facebook.com/stpiusxcc](http://www.Facebook.com/stpiusxcc) to view the livestream or you can view the recorded Mass on our website at [www.spxcc.org](http://www.spxcc.org).

**Virtual Stations of the Cross:** We will also live-stream Stations of the Cross every Friday at 7:00 pm at the same links above during the duration of the "Stay-at-home" period.

#### **COVID-19 News Continued:**

**Friday Fish Fry's Postponed:** The Friday Fish Fry's are postponed until further notice.

**Parish Lenten Mission Cancelled:** Due to the COVID-19 situation, the Lenten Parish Mission has been cancelled this year.

**Holy Week & Easter Celebrations:** Holy Week & Easter celebrations are pending. Depending upon the circumstances, the public celebrations of Holy Week and Easter may be cancelled. In any event, they will be live-streamed if public celebrations are not permitted this year.

**Bible Studies & Other Church Gatherings:** All bible studies and other church gatherings are suspended until further notice.

**Lifeteen & Edge:** Suspended until further notice.

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#### ***May He Rest In Peace***

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Steve Jones, who passed away this past week. Steve was an active member of the St. Pius X Men's Club and assisted the parish in a number of ways throughout the years. Please keep his family in your prayers.

#### ***40 Cans For Lent***

We continue to collect canned and non-perishable food for the Food Bank during the Lenten Season. Please feel free to drop them into the barrels in the church during the hours the church is open.

#### ***Church Flower Offerings***

You may continue to make offerings for our Easter flowers if you wish. Envelopes and donations can either be mailed to the parish office or dropped in our locked mailbox outside the front office.

#### ***Pray For Our Sick & Shut-ins***

Alicia & Luis Alvarado, Kirk Anderson, Sugar Arras, Abby Arredondo, Missy O'Rourke Atkinson, Tamra Bacon, Allan Balderas, Elida Benavides, Bernice Berry, Isabel Black, Judy Bowman, Jimmy Buehrig, Michael Campos, Lisa Caperton, Allison Cash, Eddie Castro, Sylvia Chatelain, Dora Church, Sabrina Cisneros, Gino Colmenero, Melanie Conner, Carole Cotter, Shirley Currie, Delgado, Sandy DeGregorio, Florinda DeLaGarza, Didra DeLosSantos, Pud'n Dellinger, Albert Diemert, Ethel Dulak, Natalie & Elaine Elwood,

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, March 28th

8:15AM +Henry Muenster

### Sunday, March 29th

10:00AM +Sterling Achee by Anna Vrazel

Pro Populo

+Roman & Luisa Arevalo by family

+Annie Krnavek Annv. by her family

+Frank Kollaja by Alhambra

### Monday, March 30th

8:15AM +James W. Kelly Sr. & Helen B. Kelly by James & John Kelly

+Mary, John, & James P. Kelly by KKH

### Tuesday, March 31st

8:15AM +Henry Muenster by Joe & Carla Keylich

+Penny Pacheco by Randy & Geraldine Sykora

### Wednesday, April 1st

8:15AM +John Boyd by Lucy Boyd

Julian Liam Galloway's Health by Grandpa

+Albert T & Mary Pat Slavick by James & John Kelly

+Frank Kollaja by Randy & Geraldine Sykora

+Ben Garcia III by Mother & Family

+Bob Glorfield by Mary Glorfield

Joan Carsagno's health by Barbara Clark

### Thursday, April 2nd

Liliane Van Hoof's well-being by James Kelly

John C. Kelly's well-being by James Kelly

### Friday, April 3rd

8:15AM James W. Kelly III's well-being, by James Kelly

+Charlotte Groner by T. Groner

+Roberto Pena by Carolyn Consuelo

+Fr. Arras by Sandi DeGregorio

+Gilbert Schanen by Nancy Schanen

+Betty Kollaja by Gladys Lippincott

+Egils Purins by Larry & Donna Grove

Katie Mechlar's health by Dotti Duerr

+James McLemore by Pat McLemore

Forgotten Souls in Purgatory by Maria Carreon & Fam.

+Pat Booth by Gladys Lippincott

Elizabeth Johnson's Int. By Art & Mary Salinas

Sultanas Int's.

John David Broadstreet's Ints.

+Frances Marsden by Bill Marsden

### Saturday, April 4th

+Anna Van Dyck by James Kelly

Living & Deceased Members of the Cathedral Chorale  
by Rick McCabe

### Sunday, April 5th

+Josephine Russell by Deanna Havel

+Grace Behrens by Bob & Judy Buchanan

For the Parishioners

+Jose Luis Suarez Annv. By Family

## *Sick & Shut-ins Continued*

Balde Espinoza, Elijah Ethridge, Bobby Floyd, Julian Galloway, Berta Garcia, Dakota Garcia, Esperanza Garcia, Minerva Garcia, Dora Garza, Raquel Garza, Terry Garza, Leigh & Jackson Gavarkovs, Deborah Giese, Beatriz Gonzalez, Juan Gonzalez, Jared Groner, Linda Habeeb, Monte Hall, Rose Marie Hand, Doyle Harris, Owen Harris, Roger Heitzmann, Jr., Shain Hennig, Anna Hernandez, Graham Hughes, Mark Hyde, Carl Jacobi, Elizabeth Johnson, Steve Jones, Frank Kolda, Dennis Kramer, Arlene Leep, Diana Lopez, Mario Lopez, Larry Ludka, Bill Lyman, Christopher Manka, Dottie Margrave, Gilbert Martinez, Jack McCord, Pat McLemore, Katie Mechlar, Barbara Mikulik, Fred Mitchell, Melynda Moore, Arlene Morgan, John Morgan, Liz Morgan, Sterling Murphy, Doug Nicol, Trent O'Connell, Anna Fay Olenick, Jason Olog, Ozzie & Mary Osborne, Valerie Pompa, Derrel & Dolores Puckett, Aaron & Mercedes Presas, Irma Ramirez, Tino Ramos, John Rank, Leo M. Robles, Stella Rollins, John & Irene Rosales, Rebecca Rosales, Myron Rose, Hedy Rosenast, Lorena Roy, David Russell, Hidalgo Salas, Americo Salazar, Luis Salazar, Robert Sanchez, Janie San Miguel, Rick Sanders, Brandee Saylor, David N. Scherzer, Msgr. Richard Shirley, Clara Skelton, Maxine Sommers, Dean Smith, Denise Sosa-Villagran, Mary Ann Starkey, Donna Tindall, Andrew Trevino, Bessie Vasquez, Leah Villalobos, Santana Villarreal, Judy West, Cynthia Williams, Helen Witzsche, Gloria Posada Alvarez, and all those who asked for and need our prayers.

## *Golf Tournament & Raffle Postponed*

Due to the Coronavirus "Stay-at-home" order, the Golf Tournament & Raffle associated with it has been postponed to June 12, 2020. We will update you about the details as they come. Thank you for your understanding.