



Tuesday, March 17, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Your priests have received two announcements from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. The first is a press release announcing the **suspension of public Masses**. The second is guidance regarding specific liturgical questions.

What this means for us at St. Anthony of Padua:

1. There will be **no public Mass in our church until after Sunday, March 29, 2020 unless the Archbishop decides to extend this suspension.**
2. The church will be **open as usual** during the regular hours for individual prayer.
3. **Confessions** will be heard at the regularly scheduled time.
4. Our parish priests will be here to serve in any capacity in which they can. We will minister to **the sick** as needed. However, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are no longer authorized to distribute Communion to the sick for the time being as stated in the instructions from the Archdiocese. The parish priests will bring Communion as Viaticum to the dying when they administer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.
5. The parish priests will continue to celebrate **Mass in private** each day in either the rectory, convent, or seminary chapels for the intentions which have been reserved.
6. **Stations of the Cross on Fridays** are suspended but can be prayed by parishioners individually. The bilingual booklets with the Stations of the Cross by St. Alphonsus will be left out all day each Friday of Lent.
7. **All parish meetings are suspended.** This includes all committees, groups, societies, etc. The **rectory office** will be closed except for **shortened business hours as posted**. No group meetings. School building is also closed.
8. We do not yet know the plans for **Holy Week**. As stated in the document from the Archdiocese, we will receive guidance on that by Friday, March 27. I will update you via parish and school websites and Facebook pages.
9. **Because we will have no public Masses this means no collections which means no income.** As a result, we have no choice but to curtail our office hours and cut back on employee

expenses because we have no means to pay them otherwise. **I urge our parishioners to make their donations via regular mail or by dropping their envelopes off at the rectory office.** God willing, this will allow us to still pay our regular bills.

10. Please pass along this information to your fellow parishioners and all the members of your groups.
11. The Archbishop stated: "I ask your continued prayers for all those who are afflicted with this virus and those who are afraid and vulnerable. I also ask you to pray and reach out to help the many families who are facing difficulties as a result of this emergency. We also need to keep in our prayers all the doctors, nurses, caregivers, and public health and civil authorities working to contain the outbreak of this virus and treat those who are sick."

Catholic are encouraged to continue to pray at home with their families and join to the sacrifice of the Mass by making an act of spiritual communion. They are also encouraged to participate in the Holy Mass via the Internet. Here are **four places Mass can be streamed or watched**, in a variety of time zones, languages, and rites:

EWTN - EWTN's YouTube Channel contains videos of nearly all of the television channel's programming, including daily and Sunday Masses. It can be found [here](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL98FC02E5AA17A7C8) in English: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL98FC02E5AA17A7C8> and here in Spanish: <https://www.ewtn.com/espanol/magtv.asp>

CATHOLIC INFORMATION CENTER - The Catholic Information Center, an apostolate of the Opus Dei located in Washington, D.C., will be streaming daily Mass, as well as a rosary and Eucharistic adoration, each weekday on their website, YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter, starting at 9:30 a.m. EDT. Click [here](#) for their YouTube channel. <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzG86fVrEruDlcrkgTLZATA>

CATHEDRAL OF OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS - The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, the seat of the Archbishop of Los Angeles, [streams Mass live](#) in both English and **Spanish on Sundays**, and in English throughout the week. Past Masses are then uploaded to the cathedral's [YouTube channel](#). <https://www.youtube.com/user/olacathedral>

LIVEMASS.NET - [LiveMass.net](#) is an apostolate of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter (FSSP), and the website streams the Latin Tridentine Mass (also known as the Extraordinary Form) five times each weekday and eight times each Sunday. In addition to Masses, the website also occasionally streams compline, vespers, and a Holy Hour. An exact schedule can be found on the website.

This is all very new to all of us and is completely extraordinary. Please be assured of my prayers for each of you. Please pray for us as well.

Our faith is much more than a building and it is based on Our Lord Jesus Christ. He will provide us the light to overcome all darkness. Our whole lives the Mass was always available to us and perhaps we did not appreciate it as we should. Now we will not have it personally for a while. Hopefully when the Mass returns in public we shall appreciate it more than ever.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Monsignor Sal Pilato, Pastor
St. Anthony of Padua Parish, Gardena