

March 19, 2020 (St. Joseph)

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

The Diocese sent out another letter (Tuesday, March 17) modifying directions from the letter sent out the week before. You can view the letter on the other side of this one if desired or posted on the web. As of yesterday, the Bishop has suspended all public weekday and weekend Masses in the Diocese of Saint Cloud, effective immediately through Easter Monday, April 13. During this ban, all Catholics in the Diocese remain dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass.

For those seeking Mass in their home during this waiting period, look for “EWTN” in your channel network (if you have cable or dish.) Otherwise, the Diocese has Sunday morning Mass on their website: <http://worship.stcdio.org/tv-mass/>.

Confessions will be available at the same time if desired: **8:00 am on Sundays**. Social distancing is encouraged of at least 6 feet between people: either between people in line, in prayer, or before the priest. I’ll use the sacristy to help maintain distance, privacy, & transparency. In light of the situation & distancing standard, Stations of the Cross will not be said.

I apologize for any inconvenience or hard feelings this may cause, though I think most of us understand and are accepting of the situation. As my homily said this past weekend, “Change is inevitable, yet like the woman at well, hopefully through it all we can realize that Jesus is nearer to us than we think.”

Till the ban is lifted, pray hard & may we experience the Power of the Resurrection in this situation ☺

The Padre,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, consisting of the initials 'J. P.' with a period after each letter.

father john paul