

# Pastor's Corner



My Brothers and Sisters:

As we begin to hear of state governors relaxing some restrictions during this COVID-19 pandemic, the staff is discussing some of our options when we get word from Archbishop Charles Thompson. Nothing is firm right now, so I have no definite news. But I am praying for wisdom as we figure things out.

I read an article recently that was titled, “Study finds young strong in faith amid virus, but increasingly lonely.” I think that can be said of people overall, but it pointed to the particular position of 18-25 year-olds. People need to be connected, and our abilities of using social media helps. But we need to be in the presence of others. I have noticed some of our young adults just showing up (one time a couple, another time three) to sit around the front of the Church, or sit on the parking lot - just hang out for a few minutes.

I thank all of you who are checking on the home-bound. I ask you to also ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in calling someone – whether it be to check on them or because you need a check-up.

One of our staff showed me a worship aid from another church that they are putting online. It looked like a good idea. The particular church site I looked at was a congregation that probably already had weekly hand-outs as members came into Church. Up until now we have been letting you know what is available online. That includes the website for the Archdiocese, which still has links for other Masses, it has links to the US Catholic Bishop's website for the daily readings at Mass. It has suggestions for prayers and other resources. And many of you have your own Sunday Missal. And the readings are also available on the myParish app we are now using on our smartphones. So, I am not sure how helpful you would find it if we spent the time and energy every week to put something out. If you have found yourselves wishing for something you could print out from us, let us know.

The Knights of Columbus just sent out on email with their recent Knighline. I quote one section that doesn't give us any new advice, but does give advice at this time when we need to remember it and are rediscovering it:

“Quite simply, when we choose Christ for ourselves, we choose Christ for our whole family. As Catholics, we believe that God will keep his word...In order to be faithful, we must first and foremost be men of prayer...Our children need to see us pray and they need to see us lead the family in prayer. This is how they will know that God is the most important thing in our lives. This is how they will learn that our lives are a gift from God, that he sustains us in everything, and that we owe him all our gratitude.”

One more article – please look at this: <https://aleteia.org/2020/04/21/isolation-and-quarantine-what-psychological-phase-are-you-in/>

Please know of the continued prayers of the staff and myself for all of you and your health and security.

In Prayer,

In Christ Our Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Tom".