

Dear Parishioners,

Please read the attached letter from Msgr. Puskamp, and the memo from Bishop Vasa regarding the county's current shelter-in-place order as a result of the health threat posed by the coronavirus, COVID-19.

Pope Francis has also spoken from the Vatican, asking Catholics and every religious community to spiritually unite in prayer amid worsening conditions relative the global coronavirus pandemic. He suggested that we pray the Rosary, and reflect on the Luminous Mysteries, which both he and our Bishop Vasa did online yesterday, March 19, St. Joseph's Day. The Pope remarked:

"We are led to the luminous and transfigured face of Jesus Christ and His Heart by Mary, Mother of God, to whom we turn with the prayer of the Rosary, [for] health of the sick, under the loving gaze of Saint Joseph, Guardian of the Holy Family and of our families. And we ask him to take special care of our family, our friends, especially the sick and the people who are taking care of them: doctors, nurses, and volunteers, who risk their lives in this service."

Also attached to this email are the Luminous Mysteries for you to use as you wish.

If you would like to attend Mass via the internet, you may visit:

The website of St. Ignatius Parish in San Francisco, <https://www.stignatiussf.org/>, has 8:00 a.m. Daily Mass (audio only) and Sunday Mass is livestreamed on You Tube (click on the "Sunday Mass Livestream" link at the top of the website's home page.)

The Father Harry/God Squad website, <https://fatherharry.org/>, for watching Sunday Mass click on the "Click here to watch this week's TV Mass" link at the bottom of the home page. Mass is celebrated by Msgr. Harry G. Schlitt.

If you would like to watch Mass on television, check your Cable provider's channel for:

EWTN airs daily Masses on TV at 5:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, and at 5:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Sunday Mass is aired at 5:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. All times are Pacific Time.

KTSF and KOFY at 6:00 a.m., and KTXL at 6:30 a.m. airs Sunday Mass with Father Harry of God Squad Productions.

If you can't open or read the attachments, you may visit our parish website on which they will be posted: starofthevalley.org. And, please continue to pray for the sick listed in our bulletin: Gail Barrett, Bud Cappa, John Collins, John Cordero, Lola Danielli, Don D'Ambrogia, Patricia Daniels, Fran Dias, Fran Evans, Charles Fulger, Frank Gyorgy, Yvonne Hanlon, Mary Jo Henrikson, Benita Jeppson, Maureen Latimer, Charles Marchese, Shirley Marelli, Diana Martinez-Bleth, Norrine McMichael, Nancy McNeill, Liz Mullins, Lea Nelson, Peggy Pavone, Joel Rivera, Phyllis Rogers, Angela Saul, Fr. David Shaw, Darlene Speer, Bart Taylor, Claire Vincent, William Wallace, and Dolores Zeni.

If you have scheduled a Mass intention for someone during this "lockdown" period, we will contact you to reschedule after we know when Masses will be allowed again.

Since we do not have email addresses for many Star of the Valley parishioners, please share this email and the attachments by printing them, if possible, for those who do not receive email and for those whom we have no email address, and encourage them to visit our parish website: <http://www.starofthevalley.org/> for updated information. You may also forward this email if you like. Thank you.

All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well." —Julian of Norwich

Blessings,
Anna



Star of the Valley Catholic Church

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March 19, 2020

Dear Parish Family,

Bishop Vasa recently sent updated directives for the parishes, the faithful, and all in the Diocese of Santa Rosa, in response to the COVID-19 crisis. In short, he said, "I have determined that it is both prudent and necessary to cancel all Church related Masses and services until the threat of further infection with the Coronavirus is ended. This means that all weekend and weekday Masses are to be cancelled...Sadly, funerals are also prohibited."

Furthermore, for multiple reasons, both the church and Msgr. Fahey Parish Center will be locked through April 7th, 2020, or longer if needed. Meanwhile, I encourage you to pray before images of the Crucified Christ, or of saints that you already have in your homes. Also, read the daily Scripture Readings, which can be found on-line if needed (USCCB.org for one.) There are several websites and TV stations that broadcast live Masses for everyone to view, but you will have to check what television stations they are on through your Cable provider.

My Easter letter to you, with the Holy Week and Easter schedule, was mailed before I received the Bishop's latest pronouncement, which, unfortunately, may cause confusion. At this time Palm Sunday Masses (April 4-5) are cancelled. Whether or not we will celebrate services for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil, or Easter Masses is yet to be determined.

News bulletins and updated information regarding the church closure will be posted on our parish website: <http://www.starofthevalley.org/>. You might also want to visit the diocesan website for further information and links to on-line Masses: <http://www.santarosacatholic.org/>.

I hope you all stay as well as possible, but if you are in need of Anointing of the Sick, please call the parish office and leave a message for me.

As a Church we have many concerns, including the health and safety of religious, clergy, lay ministers, and all the faithful. To reduce the risk of exposure or infection of COVID-19, our Home Visiting Eucharistic Ministers will not be taking Communion to the homebound during the Shelter in Place order.

I understand that this current crisis may have an economic impact on you, as it is also affecting your parish. I know and appreciate that you want to support Star of the Valley, but it is important that you take care of your needs first. After that, if you wish, you may set aside cash, whatever the amount, either in your offertory envelopes or in your own 'church donation' basket each week, to be contributed when the church reopens.

As humans, we are social beings and self-isolating, although vitally important right now, is not natural or easy for many of us. Be assured that I am keeping you all in prayer during this unusual Lenten season, and hope the health crisis will soon come to an end so we can resume our regular lives with the celebration of Mass as a community.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. James E. Pulskamp
Pastor
Star of the Valley Catholic Church

Office of the Bishop

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Diocese of Santa Rosa

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March 17, 2020

Memo to All Pastors, Parochial Administrators, Parochial Vicars, Deacons and the People of God:

These are very challenging and troubling times which call for prayer, patience and great prudence. While recognizing that the faithful rely greatly upon the spiritual solace which weekly and daily Mass provide, the present threats to the physical health and wellbeing of entire communities require measures in the Church comparable and even greater than those taken by civil authorities. Being deprived, even temporarily, of the spiritual consolations of Mass and Holy Communion is a great cross. Yet, this does not mean being deprived of Christ, His love or His attentiveness to us. Sacrificing even Holy Mass and Communion for the sake of the health and safety of the entire community entails great suffering and distress. Yet, such a sacrifice must be made in the present circumstances.

As a Church we have many concerns. One of our concerns is the health and safety of our priests and our vulnerable brethren. The priests are very willing to put themselves in harm's way but by doing so may become sources of infection for others. Thus, generosity becomes a risk for them and for others. Pastoral workers are urged to be extremely cautious and prudent about going to places where there is an increased risk of being infected or of inadvertently infecting others.

After hearing from pastors as well as medical professionals, I have determined that it is both prudent and necessary to cancel all Church related Masses and services until the threat of further infection with the Corona Virus is ended. This means that all weekend and weekday Masses are to be cancelled with the exception of the one 'Private' Mass offered by the priest each day without a congregation. Many weekday Masses are attended by more than 50 people and many more who could not avail themselves for Mass on Sunday may deem that it is "safe" to attend Mass on another day. Since this would most likely result in larger crowds, the threat of infection would be heightened, not lessened, by continuing daily Masses. Again, the only Mass should be the 'private' Mass of the priests in the parish without a congregation.

Sadly, funerals are also prohibited. Memorial Masses scheduled later are an alternative.

The provisions above apply equally to any Confirmation plans or schedules. Confirmations through May 10 are indefinitely postponed. All other Confirmation dates for this season are now Tentative.

Please pray for an end of this Pandemic and for safety for all Medical Professionals, Pastoral Workers and First Responders. There is need for an abundance of caution. All that we do going forward must be out of concern for the well-being, both spiritual and physical, of our people and of the entire community.

Bishop of the Diocese of Santa Rosa

How to Pray the Luminous Mysteries of the Rosary

The Blessed Holy Father John Paul II on October 16th, 2002 with the Apostolic Letter Rosarium Virginis Mariae on the Most Holy Rosary has added 5 new mysteries of the Rosary: The Mysteries of Light.

Start by making the **Sign of the Cross**:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Then recite the **Apostle's Creed**:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Then say 1 "Our Father," 3 "Hail Mary's" for the virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity; and then 1 "Glory Be."

Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary, Full of Grace, The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of death. Amen.

Glory Be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Rosary is divided into three parts, each having five mysteries. While meditating on the Mysteries, recite: 1 "Our Father," 10 "Hail Marys," and 1 "Glory Be" for each Mystery.

After each Mystery the **Fatima Prayer** is said.

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to heaven, especially those who are in most need of Thy mercy.

All together this makes up one decade.

After the completion of the five mysteries (five decades), the **Hail Holy Queen** is said:

Hail, holy Queen, mother of mercy, our life, our sweetness, and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve. To thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy

toward us, and after this our exile show us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

The Luminous Mysteries



The Baptism in the Jordan

After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the Heavens were opened for Him and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to Him. And a voice came from Heaven saying "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."
—Matthew 3:16-17



The Wedding at Cana

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there... When the wine ran short Mary said to him, "They have no wine." Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."
—John 2:1-11



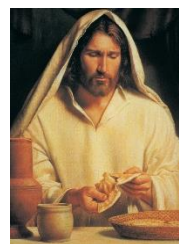
The Proclamation of the Kingdom

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."
—Mark 1:14-15



The Transfiguration

While Jesus was praying His face changed in appearance and His clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were conversing with Him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of His exodus that He was going to accomplish in Jerusalem."
—Luke 9:28-31



Institution of the Eucharist

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."
—John 6:51
