

# Immaculate Conception Parish Update

Thursday, March 19, 2020

Hello! I hope everyone is well. If you need to see a priest or if you have any questions about things pertaining to the CORVID-19 situation, please don't hesitate to contact me (Fr. Ron).

This is a very confusing time for many if not most of us and our faith is maybe more important than ever. Even though we aren't able to hold public liturgies there are a number of Masses that are televised. If you are missing celebrating the Mass, please look up one of those Masses and enjoy a spiritual communion. Make use of the daily Mass reading that can be found in the weekly bulletin (we will continue to make that available weekly). Make sure to say your prayers and continue your Lenten penances. These will be very important for your spiritual health. As much as I want you to stay physically healthy, I want you to remain spiritually healthy too.

Remember:

1. Wash your hands with warm, soapy water for at least 20 seconds (under and around your nails too!
2. Cover your coughs.
3. Social distancing is the new buzz word...remember to try to maintain a minimum of 6 feet between you and other people.
4. Avoid large gatherings of people.

Attached to this email is the latest list of Questions and Answers (Q&A) from the diocese. We will provide these to you as soon as we get them. If we have information to get to everyone, we will send out an email blast, put the information on the website, and post it on Facebook. If we have anything to post it will generally happen around 12 Noon, Tuesday through Friday.

If you'd like to watch Mass online, I'd suggest watching Bishop Robert Barron. He can be found on the Word on Fire website. The Mass is posted daily around 8:15 AM. The website is: <https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/>

**NB: Originally, I was planning on offering adoration and confessions on Friday, March 20, but that has now changed. The latest guidance from the diocese is that we should cancel anything that we can cancel. So, we should cancel that too.**

Remember that the Church will be open Tuesday through Friday from 8:30-12 Noon for private prayer.

**Regarding parish meetings**, I think it is still necessary for our commissions and committees to meet. Not only to conduct regular business of the parish but also to answer questions and bring people up to speed on things. Deacon Joe is looking at various services we might use to hold meetings online. Generally, attendees will receive an email with logon instructions to access the meeting.

**Backpacks for Kids:** Many kids who rely on the school lunch program to receive nutritious meals are going to be severely impacted by not attending school. The elementary school in Colfax is hoping to be able to provide breakfast and lunch meals to kids but suppers might be difficult. In your generosity, if you could continue to drop food by for the backpack program weekly or so that would be very helpful. The Church will be open Tuesday through Friday from 8:30-12 Noon and on Saturday from 10:00-11:00 AM.

**Prayer List:** If there are people you would like for us to pray for please send their names to me and I'll add them to our prayer list.

- Healthcare workers, EMT's, and other caregivers during this time. For their health and safety.
- For scientists and doctors who are working to develop a cure or vaccine to combat the coronavirus.
- For those who are worrying about where their next meal might come from, for those who have lost their jobs because their business is no longer open, for those who are worrying about finances, health, loved ones, or who are anxious or frightened.
- For those who are not able to visit loved ones in hospitals and nursing homes, for their family members.
- For those who are stricken with CORVID-19 or any other disease, for those in danger of death.
- For our government leaders.

Questions or concerns please call the parish office (515-674-3711) or Fr. Ron (563-676-3625). If your call isn't answered immediately, please leave a message and we'll get to you soon.