

Some Parish Information – St. Joseph and St. Anne

Sunday Missals: we received a new shipment and now have a good supply (approx. 100) of the red Sunday Missals. Especially in these days of “Stay-At-Home” and of our desire to meditate on the scripture readings, these Missals will come in very handy, if you do not already have one. If you happen to be out and about doing some necessary and essential activities (like going for a walk or shopping, or to the pharmacy or dentist), and if you happen to come by the parish, you can pick up a copy, whether for yourself or for a neighbour or friend. They are wrapped in a plastic Ziplock bag and are free. Just come to the back of the rectory: the garage door will be open tomorrow, April 3rd from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm and on Saturday, April 4th in the afternoon from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. You will find them at the entrance to the garage in bins. Please take one and enjoy reading the Word of God for each Sunday. Please maintain social distancing, if there happens to be others present.

Holy Week is the most important week of the Church Year and we cannot gather as a faith community. But we will still celebrate Easter in our homes – and to some extent even as a parish family – because we are people of the Resurrection, of hope and new life. Some Holy Week celebrations will be online:

- Sunday, April 5th, 9:30 am – Palm Sunday Mass and Blessing of the Palms (to be distributed later when we can gather)
- Friday, April 10th, 11:00 am – online Good Friday Family Prayer Liturgy
- Sunday, April 12th, 9:30 am – Easter Sunday Mass

Please let your family and friends, and our faithful parishioners know about these parish social media events. As we get closer to the dates, we will give you further information.

Scripture Reflections: We will continue to offer **daily Scripture Reflections** – in written form by email, as well as on Facebook. Please send us your email address, if you wish to keep in touch with the parish.

Cancellations and Changes: We received a recent communication this evening from the Bishop’s Office. During this COVID-19 pandemic, scheduled events from April 2 until June 30, 2020 are either cancelled or rescheduled for later. Important to us are the following cancellations:

- all scheduled celebrations of the Sacrament of Baptism, the Sacrament of Confirmation, First Holy Communions, the Sacrament of Marriage (to be rescheduled for some time in the fall).
- Cancelled also are the following diocesan events: Mass of New Catholics (April 25th), Serra Club Altar Server Awards (and Diocesan Priests’ Retreat (May), Convocation for Priests and Wedding Anniversary Mass (June), Marriage Preparation Courses (reschedule after June 30th)

These are very difficult times. Let us continue to pray for one another, especially for the sick and those who have died, and for our health care workers. Our lives may seem to have been disrupted, put “on hold” but we are people of the Resurrection, of new life in Christ. We take advantage of this challenging time for extra prayer and reflection, for family time and relaxation, as we re-group and we place our trust in Him. You are missed and loved, and prayed for daily by us your priests and pastoral staff.

Be safe! Be healthy, happy and holy.

Fr. Brian