

Dear Parishioners,

As we face and suffer the effects of the current global Coronavirus pandemic, I do respect, support and seriously embrace the guidelines from our State and national leaders as well as from our Bishop of Worcester Diocese regarding gatherings that should not exceed 25 people in one place and the suspension of public Masses in our diocese respectively. And I encourage every parishioner to take them to heart in order to keep ourselves safe from contracting the Coronavirus.

But that be as it is, I will keep our churches open for personal prayers. Public Masses will resume when the suspension is lifted pending the trend of the Coronavirus in our State and Country, let alone the whole world. That is to say, throughout this period of restricted numbers in gatherings and suspension of public Masses, our St. Martin church will be open on Sundays as usual and Holy Cross church will also be open on Sundays and Mondays through Wednesdays as usual for personal prayers. Please, let us seriously observe the guidelines of social-distancing, constant washing of our hands, not being among others when we are sick or suspect we may be sick from this virus, and staying home if you are vulnerable. Also let us remember that in very trying moments, such as this one, it is in God that we find ultimate safety, protection and comfort.

Let us all earnestly pray for a quick passing of the current health crisis and that the devil may not use it to draw more people away from God. For without God, we can do nothing; we are lost; and we are nothing. Thus, our trust in God who made heaven and earth and the visible and the invisible ought to remain strong in every challenge. Yes, this trust may be and will be tested; but we should not let it be vanquished by challenges and by the devil in his sneaky ways. And as we pray in the divine mercy chaplet that, “Jesus, I trust in You,” let that be in our hearts and on our lips during this life-challenging Coronavirus crisis and always.

Your pastor,

Fr. Patrick

P.S. Please, if possible, mail in your offertory envelopes, since our parish bills do not know the Coronavirus. Thank You!