



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH

2450 NE 27th Street • Bend, OR 97701
Ph. 541-382-3631 • Fax 541-385-8879
www.stfrancisbend.org

March 17, 2020

Dear St. Francis Parish Family:

It is with a heavy heart that I write to let you know about significant changes to our Catholic spiritual life that Bishop Cary has directed in response to the COVID-19 virus and orders from civil authorities.

1. All Masses (Sunday and weekday) are cancelled until further notice.
2. Adoration is cancelled but the Historic Church will be open for private prayer from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. seven days a week. If you come for private prayer, be sure to observe social distancing guidelines and that there less than 10 persons in the Church.
3. Confessions will be heard by appointment only. Call the parish office to schedule a time. Parish Lenten Confessions are cancelled. More information will be available soon about alternatives that are being planned.
4. Funerals will be conducted with immediate family only, with a Memorial Mass at a later date, if the family wishes. There will be no funeral luncheons or receptions.
5. Baptisms and weddings will not be celebrated.
6. The State has put a lock down on all hospitals, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities. A priest can go only to administer the last rites. I will be available for anyone in need.

Live streaming liturgies

Here at St. Francis, Fr. Steve and I will say private Mass at 7 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. with no ministerial support which will be live streamed on our parish website stfrancisbend.org. We will also recite the Divine Mercy Chaplet following the 7a.m. Mass and the rosary after the 12:15p.m. Mass. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed and will be available over live stream for your personal adoration after the 7am Mass until the 12.15 Mass. On weekends we will be live streaming the Saturday 5pm, Sunday 10am and 12.30pm. The Lord has given us enough Lenten penance. I ask that you join us in prayer and unite your inconvenience and sacrifices with the Holy Sacrifices of the Mass that we live stream. The Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m. on Fridays in Lent will be also live streamed.

New Ministry

We are organizing a ministry to reach out to parishioners who need assistance during this time. If you would like to volunteer to be part of this ministry or are in need of assistance call the parish office. The parish offices are open and the staff is ready to assist anyone in need.

Finally, we turn to our heavenly Father at this time to pray for those affected by the illness, those who care for them, those who have died, those working to establish effective policies and procedures, and those who are searching for a cure or vaccine. Please join us in praying the Novena seeking the



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protection of our Blessed Mother. You are welcome to pray it from home; it is found on our parish website. Let us entrust our nation and the entire world to the protection of our heavenly Mother. Lots of catholic resources are available on Formed.org. Use the parish code **ZCBRWF** to set up a free account for yourself and enjoy what it has to offer.

In Christ the conqueror of sin and evil,

Fr. Jose Thomas Mudakodiyil, Pastor