

Date: March 21, 2020

Re: Availability of Sacrament During Coronavirus

From: Fr. Randy

Effective Date: **March 23, 2020**

I greet you with the same peace that Jesus offered to his disciples in the upper room.

The past days have been challenging for most of us. We are limited with what we can do. But we know that God is ever nearer, as the Psalmist says:

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

During this time of self-quarantining or social distancing we know that God remains. He comes to calm our drooping spirit. He comes to offer us his peace.

As we are limited with access to the sacraments - I would like to offer the following possibilities as we are uncertain as to when we can get back to some sense of normalcy.

Daily and Weekend Masses:

I have been celebrating daily masses LIVE on Facebook using the account of *Transfiguration of Jesus Catholic Church*. My personal Facebook is *Gonzales Rndy*. I will be posting messages and communications in both accounts.

Monday-Thursday-Friday – 9 AM in English

Wednesday – 7 PM in Spanish

Sunday 830 AM in English

Sunday 930 AM in Spanish

Adoration

Monday – Friday at 12 noon – 1 PM also LIVE on Facebook.

Confessions

The Vatican has given us permission to give general absolution.

In places particularly hard hit by the coronavirus pandemic and with severe limits on people leaving their homes, conditions may exist to grant general absolution to the faithful without them personally confessing their sins first.

Echoing what Pope Francis had said that morning in his homily, the Apostolic Penitentiary urged priests to remind their faithful that when they find themselves with "the painful impossibility of receiving sacramental absolution," they can make an act of contrition directly to God in prayer.

If they are sincere and promise to go to confession as soon as possible, they "obtain the forgiveness of sins, even mortal sins," the notice said.

I would like to propose the following for our parish.

1. During adoration from Monday to Friday – I will be in the church praying before the Blessed Sacrament. I will be seated next to the statue of the Virgin of Guadalupe. I will set up a kneeler with PURPLE STOLE in the middle of the church. Anyone who approaches the kneeler whether standing or kneeling would signify that you are here to receive general absolution. I suggest that you do an examination of conscience before you approach the kneeler to receive the absolution of your sins.
2. If you wish to have an individual confession, please let me know. I will arrange a place in the parish hall in keeping with safety and social distance. This can be done before or after adoration. Please let me know by calling/texting me at 919-710-0486.

Reception of the Body of Christ During Time of Coronavirus

The following opportunities to receive the Body of Christ are available throughout the week – maintaining prudence, safety and distance.

1. Monday to Friday after the LIVE Facebook mass from 930-10AM
2. Monday to Friday during Adoration. If you come to receive Communion during Adoration hour, please approach the kneeler with WHITE STOLE (the kneeler with PURPLE STOLE is for general absolution).
3. On Sunday in **River Landing at 10 AM by Deacon** Mike, Fr. Randy distributes to the people in town and nearby towns and villages, and in Sta. Clara at 1 PM.
4. Throughout the week by calling or texting to arrange an appointment to receive the Body of Christ.

** When close contact is unavoidable, like the reception of the Body of Christ, sanitizers are available in designated places inside the church.

