3/20/2020

Friday

Dear Parishioner,

From the first moments of the restrictions our Bishop was forced to place on the faithful concerning mass attendance, my mind was immediately set upon how I might offer you the mass without breaking the directives of the Bishop or their spirit. My current arrangement is to offer 10 of you to be in church for holy mass when I say my private mass at noon. Being perhaps too optimistic, I hoped that this would work also for Sunday. It will not as the faithful are so hungry for their mass that I fear the church will be full as I say my mass ad orientem (which means, in our case, “from the east where the sun comes from towards the west” which is the symbol of Christ’s resurrection and the light entering the world) and will be guilty of breaking the Bishop’s directives by default. So, I have another solution.

This Sunday, at noon, the Faithful may once again return to church for mass. Ten souls may enter in but the others are asked to remain outside the church. My voice will be heard very well by everyone through the speakers in the bell tower. The faithful will be able to see me as I keep all of the doors open. As well, if anyone is present, they may choose to remain in their autos with the windows down to be able to hear. In this way, you have kept the Lord’s commandments by approaching God the Father through Jesus in the mass.

Remember that there will be no homily nor will there be any communion distributed. To receive the graces of Holy Communion, you must be in a state of grace (have no mortal sin) and make a Spiritual Communion when I take communion for you. I will pause at that time to allow you to make a Spiritual Communion. (More information on Spiritual Communion and links below.) Because mass will contain no homily or reception of communion, the time for the mass will be shortened greatly. I mention this for those of you who are concerned with having to stand too long outside etc.

Do not forget that confession is offered every day at 11:30 except Monday’s and also by appointment.

Keep in mind that these measures taken by Bishop Provost are for your sake. Not the sake of the priest. Pray that whatever this situation is will be over very soon. We cannot go on without a fervent devotion to Holy Mass as well as our religious activities otherwise.

Last, please continue to support the operations of this church by your charitable giving. You can now give your weekly or monthly contribution online at [ourladyofthelake.church](https://www.ourladyofthelake.church/giving.html). The Lord has blessed us materially and we are on a very firm standing as of now. But this can all quickly change if we must begin to live off of our savings.

Faithfully yours,

Fr. Alexius

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[Click here for a Spiritual Communion.](https://www.thedivinemercy.org/library/spiritualcommunion?blm_aid=0)

[Click here for more about making a Spiritual Communion.](https://www.ncregister.com/daily-news/follow-the-saints-make-a-spiritual-communion1?blm_aid=0)

[Click here to make your contribution online.](https://www.ourladyofthelake.church/giving.html)

**A Spiritual Communion**

**With Mary**

**O Immaculate Queen of Heaven and Earth, Mother of God and Mediatrix of every grace! I believe that Thy dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, is truly, really and substantially contained in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love Him above all things and I long to receive Him into my heart. Since I cannot now receive Him sacramentally, be so good as to place Him spiritually in my soul.**

**O my Jesus, I embrace Thee as One Who has already come, and I unite myself entirely to Thee. Never permit me to be separated from Thee. Amen.**