Coronavirus Update for the Pastoral Region of St. Augustine, St. Brigid, and St. Paul 3/19/2020

We live in unprecedented times. As you have probably heard, Archbishop Schnurr has decreed that all masses through Easter are cancelled. To my knowledge, this has never happened before, but I am confident that we will get through this, and we will get through this if we continue to pray and keep a positive attitude.

Though our parishioners cannot be physically at mass right now, Fr. John and I are going to record mass every day and broadcast it on Facebook live and upload it to YouTube. You can “livestream” these masses at home. We also will be recording some spiritual talks. You can watch these on YouTube and there is a link for watching our videos on the St. Brigid Facebook page and the St. Paul website. Simply search “Fr. Andrew Cordonnier” on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC12hUTAs6netHf4phOQ6K-w/featured) or [@StBrigidXenia on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/stbrigidxenia/) and our videos will come up.

Fr. John and I are committed to doing our part to help people during this difficult time. As such, Fr. John and I will be offering more times for confession and more Holy Hours. We are here for you. Please don’t be afraid to get a hold of us at (937) 372-3193. Now more than ever, we must unite all of our prayers on behalf of our sick and suffering brothers and sisters in Christ.

St. Paul Church will be open for private prayer on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10:00am-1:00pm. There will be confessions available at St. Paul from 10:00-10:30am on Wednesday and Thursday, as well as 3:00-3:30pm on Saturday.

The Chapel at St. Brigid Church will be open for private prayer from 10:00am-4:00pm Monday-Friday. We are offering Confessions at St. Brigid on Wednesday at 7:00pm, on Friday at 9:30am and on Saturday at 3:30pm. St. Brigid will have a Holy Hour on all Fridays at 9:30am. The Chapel door is near the handicap parking spaces.

All masses, including Sunday mass will be recorded at the Chapel at St. Brigid. We will often have Adoration after mass. We plan on blessing palms on Palm Sunday and people can pick up their blessed palms outside church after mass. We also plan to record Holy Week masses. This way everyone can tune in and be a part of our church. This will definitely be a memorable Holy Week.

There are some good things going on for our churches right now and it’s very important for us to stay positive. Adam Lewis, a seminarian, will be staying with me for the next several weeks. We're really happy to have him! At St. Paul, our mural in the sanctuary is currently being cleaned and restored. I can't wait to see it in all its original glory! Since Fr. John, Dr. O'Neill and I have some down time right now, we started painting the St. Brigid parish office. We just started, but I know it will look great! After all this is over with, you'll have to stop in and see it.

Please continue to pray and don't forget to keep a positive attitude.

St. Roch (Rock) is the patron saint of illness. St. Roch was marked with a red cross on his chest at birth. When his parents died, he inherited great wealth which he gave to the poor and devoted his life to helping the plague-stricken and sick. His miraculous powers were known to have cured many with the "Sign of the Cross”.

I would ask, in your charity, if you would join me in praying the following prayers for our world. St. Roch was known to perform many miraculous healings during his lifetime, and we can pray for his intercession now.

"O Blessed St Roch, Patron of the sick, have pity on those who lie upon a bed of suffering.

Your power was so great when you were in this world, that by the sign of the Cross, many were healed of their diseases.

Now that you are in heaven, your power is no less. Offer to God our sighs and tears and obtain for us the physical and spiritual health we seek:

(Share your request…)

This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

St Roch: Pray for us, that we may be relieved from all diseases of body and soul. (Repeat 3 times)

Lord Jesus, may thy will be done.

Say: Our Father… Hail Mary… Glory be…"

In Christ,

Fr. Andrew Cordonnier

Solemnity of St. Joseph, March 19, 2020