

A Holy Week Message from Fr. Currie

Hello, my sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus,

I hope and pray all of you are safe, healthy and adjusting to this very surreal and disruptive time in our lives. I am sure that you, like me, had no idea two months ago that a tiny, tiny virus, impossible to be detected by the human eye, would have such control over our lives and the life of the world. It has brought us to our knees in many ways.

We will get through this one day and return to life as we prefer it. However, there will be more hardships, sacrifices and inconveniences that we will have to endure before then, and, most sadly, more loss of life.

That is why it is imperative that we do our part to combat this pandemic and join in the efforts to minimize its potential impact, by following the advice, policies, restrictions and social duties we owe each other and all of God's people, which our elected officials, Church leaders, civic leaders and medical experts have encouraged us to abide by, as well as to find ways to safely provide for the needs of each other.

We must also hold onto our faith and hope in God's love and mercy for us, and through prayer, continue to raise our petitions for the world, our Church, our local community, our elected officials, medical personnel, first responders and those serving on the "front lines" of this pandemic, such as janitors, truck drivers and store cashiers.

As well, we must pray for those who are sick with the virus, those who have died, in a special way those who have passed to the Lord with no family by their sides, we pray for those who mourn, those who have lost jobs and incomes, parents who have suddenly become teachers, teachers who have suddenly been asked to be Internet experts, children and young people now sheltering in place, people who are very isolated, lonely and alone, the homeless and hungry and for every other way the Coronavirus has affected our lives.

But we can pray with confidence that our Good God, who sent his son to redeem us by the sacrifice of his Cross and brought us to new life through his Resurrection, is already preparing the way he will lift us up from our knees to new life in him and, hopefully, as a people rekindled with a new vision of solidarity, simplicity and humility, and willing to embrace other lessons the Father is imparting upon us through the Holy Spirit, during this very different Lent and time in the desert with the Lord.

Friends, with all of this in mind, I invite us to enter into this Holy Week, the most sacred time of our year, humbled in God's sight, not so much by a tiny virus, but most of all humbled by our complete dependence upon our God, who made us in love, to know his love and to be love for others.

Let us profess our faith, through the holy, ancient rituals and prayers of this week, that our God will conquer all of our fears and worries, that he will never abandon us and that he will always lead us and guide us to new life, as he did through the Paschal Mystery of his son, who suffered, died and rose in glory for our salvation.

On behalf of myself and my brother priests of our parishes, please know that you are in our prayers and we are here to serve you in any way that we now can.

Like the crowds who acclaimed Jesus in Jerusalem, let us go forth in peace with him, as pilgrims willing to faithfully journey the holy days the Father has prepared for us.