



SAINT JOSEPH PARISH

Do not be afraid ... Be careful.

March 24, 2020

Dear Friends,

Please know that I am holding all of you in prayer as we continue, through our limited status, to exercise our mission to reach out in service to all.

Thank you for continuing to serve one another through prayer and electronic connections. The power of Christ cannot be ordered to stay at home, so we must be His instruments in connecting with God's People through the means at our disposal. We will continue to call our community to prayer with a livestreamed 9:15am Mass, the *Angelus* at noon, the Rosary at 3pm and the Stations of the Cross at 7pm with sung Vespers on Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm. Our parish office will be staffed by a single person from 10am until noon and I encourage you to reach out to each other electronically, so that we can be a reminder of the message of Christ: "I will be with you always."

There is some religious information being promoted on the internet that I would not consider dependable. The parish wants to give you a reliable Catholic source of information for your continued formation. You now have on-line access to **Formed**, a technology platform for the delivery of award-winning Catholic content, children's programming, audio talks, e-books, and more. Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier and can be accessed from any internet connected device. Discover something for every member of the family that will help us grow closer to Christ. To access **Formed** go to www.signup.formed.org and enter our zip code of 43560. Identify Saint Joseph Parish, Sylvania, Ohio and register with your name and email address and you will be linked to **Formed**.

Even though our campuses are quite empty we continue to work to assist our parishioners by our staff members working from home. Our Parish School has been converting into a "virtual school." Our faculty continue to be available on a daily basis to all our students through the internet.

Many have asked me how they can continue to support the work of the parish during this time. First and foremost, please continue to pray for our parish and all the members of our community. Secondly your financial support would be greatly appreciated. I recognize that this is not possible for everyone, but for those who can, this would be a great help. We are reducing our costs as much as possible, but many still remain a daily concern for me. There are a few ways you can continue giving.

Option
1

Use **Online Giving** to keep up on offertory. Go to <https://www.stjoesylvania.org/> and click on the Online Giving link to sign up.

Online Giving has options for weekly, monthly, quarterly or yearly regular Offertory giving and/or gives you an option to contribute to other funds (Rainy Day, Endowment, Altar Flowers, Holy Days, etc.) This service is safe, secure and convenient for you. You can set up automatic withdrawal or use a credit card (Visa, Mastercard or Discover).

Option
2

Utilize ACH. Go to <https://www.stjoesylvania.org/> and click on the Stewardship Tab, then select ACH in the drop-down.

Our ACH option allows you to make contributions to support our parish ministries without writing checks or worrying about cash donations. ACH allows you to set up automatic contributions and you may change the timing or the amount of your gift at any time. This option is a withdrawal from checking or savings only.

Option
3

Continue using your Offertory Envelopes –Envelopes can be mailed to the Parish Office (5411 Main Street Sylvania, OH 43560). You may also drop off your envelope to the Parish Office **Drop Box** which is located inside the Parish Office double doors.

*May Christ who reached out with compassion
to the woman at the well; who healed the man born blind;
and who raised Lazarus from the dead,
grant us his healing and be our remedy
for all that ails us physically, spiritually and emotionally.
Amen.*

In the Spirit of Saint Joseph,



Rev. Msgr. Michael R. Billian
Pastor