



COVID-19 Update

Tuesday, March 17, 2020 Updated: Wednesday, March 18, 2020

Dear People of Sacred Heart,

We met as a staff this morning and would like to take a moment to update you on events and Masses at Sacred Heart. After much prayer and discussion, we have come to the very difficult, but we feel necessary, decision to suspend all public events at Sacred Heart for the time being. This includes daily and weekend Mass. Per a statement from Bishop Kettler, all public Masses are suspended until after April 13, 2020.

However, it is our desire to stay connected to our parishioners as much as possible. In order to do this, we will be providing a livestream via YouTube of Daily Mass and 5pm Mass on Saturday and a 9am Mass on Sunday. If you go to our website (www.sacredheartsaukrapids.org) and click the LiveStream button, it will take you to our YouTube livestream. If you do have a YouTube account make sure you subscribe to our page and we would encourage you to participate in the livestream of the Mass by adding a comment with your prayers or intentions.

Church will be open and available for personal prayer from 8am-4pm Monday through Friday. Please enter through Door 5. We ask you to take necessary precautions to keep everyone healthy. Please maintain the recommended 6-foot distance if others are in church and use available sanitizer.

Individual confession will be available as scheduled on Saturdays at 3:30pm. Please keep a distance from others in church and avoid lining up near the confessors. We may choose to leave doors partially open to avoid the need to touch door handles. If that time doesn't work, you are always welcome to set up an appointment for individual confession.

Please let us know what else we can do to support you spiritually through this difficult time. Can we send you (or someone you know) a note? Would you like a personal phone call? Reach out to us and let us know. Bulletins are available online, just click the button on the homepage.

Obviously, no Masses means no collection baskets. This could seriously impact our parish, but it is still the right thing to do. If you regularly drop your donation in the basket at Mass, please consider sending it in the mail, or you have the option to take part in online giving or you can set up an automatic withdrawal from your bank account. On our homepage, there is a button for Online Giving, or give us a call and we can send you an ACH form to get that process set up.

We appreciate your understanding. We did not come to these decisions lightly. Please know you all remain in our prayers and we look forward to joyfully gathering as a parish in the near future.

Sincerely,

The Staff of Sacred Heart, Sauk Rapids

The diocesan website has a page with recent statements from the Bishop as well as resources you may wish to use.