

PASTOR'S UPDATE TO PARISHIONERS – G (3/27/20)

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PASTORAL MESSAGE TO PARISHIONERS FROM FR. FERGUSON

Greetings!

I hope everyone is doing well in this midst of a very strange way of living....it's been two weeks already since things really changed; let's hang in there with our daily sacrifices and faith in the providence of our Lord!

The main purpose of today's update is to prepare us for Sunday's Live-Stream Cluster Mass. Information on how to participate is given below.

Also please note the various new bits of spiritual information shown below.

This is only a brief update for today; on Monday, I plan to send a much more extensive update which will include Jackie the Cat's weekly (Monday) message to our parish children, along with a run-down/re-cap of all the spiritual opportunities at our disposal – both our “ongoing” cluster activities, as well as new opportunities that I've been made aware of from local parishioners, Bishop Brennan, and our Office of Marriage and Family Life. I think it will be good to present all those things in one fell swoop, on Monday, so that everyone is current on the spiritual opportunities at hand. I will also re-cap/remind folks of local parish logistics, such as ongoing office, staff, and contact logistics.

Thanks for all your help, and let me know if you have any questions!

Our Mother Mary, Patron of our Hardin County Parishes, Pray for Us!

- Fr. Bill Ferguson, Pastor

LIVE-STREAM CLUSTER MASS INFORMATION

On Sunday, with the Diocese's permission, we will once again live-stream a Cluster Mass which will be viewable on YouTube. The Mass will take place at **9:00 a.m.** It will be the Fifth Sunday of Lent...only a week before Palm Sunday! Here is the link to view the Mass:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVxcsTyz-ukNpEDHVkQWKVw>

Parishioners should just need to click the link and it will take you to our new YouTube page. You should see an image that day that says "Live"; click on that and you will be all set. This site also has the recorded video of last week's Sunday Mass.

You are invited during the Mass to make a "Spiritual Communion"; check out this article on what a "Spiritual Communion" is, and how it can help during a Live-Streamed Mass: <https://www.ncregister.com/blog/armstrong/if-you-cant-receive-communion-make-a-spiritual-communion>

PLEASE NOTE: DUE TO BISHOP BRENNAN'S DIRECTIVES, **ABSOLUTELY NO PARISHIONERS MAY COME ON-SITE FOR THIS MASS** FOR HEALTH REASONS.

This live-stream Mass for our cluster will take place from Ada, since the technology and wifi are already in place in the church. We hope to keep doing this each Sunday.

As noted in previous updates, regarding parish offertory, feel free either to send in your envelopes/contributions by mail, or to keep track and make a "lump-sum" contribution when we are able to resume on-site liturgies. (We do not currently have capability for EFT contributions, which takes some effort and planning to set up; we might consider this in the near future, but would not have it in place before the end of Coronavirus.)

MISCELLANEOUS NEW SPIRITUAL INFORMATION

TODAY'S FRIDAY DIOCESAN 'DAY OF PRAYER & PENANCE'

As you know, today (Friday) continues to be a day declared by Bishop Brennan as a Day of Prayer & Penance for the intention of those with the virus and those who care for them. In your observance of this day of prayer, you may wish to make use of Pope Francis' "Urbi and Orbi" ["to the City of Rome and to the World"] blessing, which occurred at 1:00 pm today Ohio time, but which will be re-broadcast as follows [information provided by Bishop Brennan]:

"St. Gabriel Radio will be....airing Pope Francis' blessing at.... 8 p.m. [Friday] **Click on this sentence to find more information and listen to both events at St. Gabriel's website.** You can also watch Pope Francis' blessing on the EWTN Network....with encore presentations at 8 p.m. [Friday] and 5 a.m. [Saturday]; it can also be seen on the Catholic Faith Network at www.cfntv.org Saturday on your cable/dish network **or click on this area to be taken to their website.**

To learn more about the significance of this papal blessing, click anywhere in this sentence and watch a short video from the U.S. Conference for Catholic Bishops."

HOLY WEEK/TRIDUUM

In case you are wondering about Holy Week/Triduum liturgical plans, Bishop Brennan told priests yesterday that he is planning to send us directives later today (Friday) on how we should go about handling the Triduum under the present circumstances, based on guidance from the Vatican and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Once I receive that information and see how it affects our cluster, I will communicate that information to you, hopefully in the Monday update.

THIS WEEK'S MASS READINGS

Sat 3/28	Jeremiah 11:18-20; John 7:40-53
Sun 3/29	[Fifth Sunday of Lent] Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11;
John 11:1-45	
Mon 3/30	Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; John 8:1-11
Tues 3/31	Numbers 21:4-9; John 8:21-30
Wed 4/1	Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95; John 8:31-42
Thurs 4/2	Genesis 17:3-9; John 8:51-59
Fri 4/3	Jeremiah 20:10-13; John 10:31-42
Sat 4/4	Ezekiel 37:21-28; John 11:45-56
Sun 4/5	[Palm Sunday] Matthew 21:1-11 [Processional Gospel];
Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Matthew 26:14 – 27:66	