

# PASTOR'S UPDATE TO PARISHIONERS – K (4/8/20)

## WHAT'S IN THIS UPDATE:

- PASTORAL MESSAGE TO PARISHIONERS FROM FR. FERGUSON
- TRIDUUM LITURGIES – CLUSTER

## PASTORAL MESSAGE TO PARISHIONERS FROM FR. FERGUSON

Greetings!

Just a quick Update today, mainly to share with you the Worship Aids for our Cluster Livestreamed Masses for Holy Thursday and Easter Morning.

Please see below for information about these Masses, including some liturgical “clarifications” in light of the effects of Coronavirus and the decisions of Bishop Brennan and/or the Vatican.

Please refer to Monday’s “Update - J” for information about Livestreamed liturgies for Good Friday and Easter Vigil, available from our Cathedral, and a re-cap of all our various Spiritual Opportunities.

Please remember that, unfortunately, priests in our Diocese are still explicitly not allowed to hear Confessions at this time. If Bishop Brennan gives us further guidance on this in the future (which he may), I will communicate that to you. In the meantime, please refer to Monday’s “Update – J” for a reminder on other steps you may take to receive forgiveness for sins in preparation for Easter.

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

- Fr. Bill Ferguson, Pastor

## TRIDUUM LITURGIES – CLUSTER

As described in past Updates, for **HOLY THURSDAY** and **EASTER MORNING**, Bishop Brennan gives Pastors permission to celebrate these Masses locally (of course, still with the current restrictions against having a congregation present) and to live-stream these Masses, as we’ve been doing for our Cluster Sunday Masses.

Accordingly, I plan to offer:

**LIVESTREAM CLUSTER HOLY THURSDAY MASS at 7:00 PM (April 9)**

**LIVESTREAM CLUSTER EASTER MORNING MASS at 9:00 AM (April 12).**

To access these Masses, please use the same YouTube link you have already been using for the Sunday Masses: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVxcsTyz-ukNpEDHVkQWKVw>

Attached to today's "Update-K", please find a Worship Aid for each Mass with all the readings and hymns:

### **Notes of Clarification Regarding These Masses:**

#### **Both Liturgies:**

- Bishop Brennan has given special permission, in the case of these Triduum Masses, to allow a very limited number of extra assistants beyond simply two (a Deacon and a cameraman) which have been the only permitted persons for the other Sundays thus far. Therefore, for these two Triduum Masses alone, we will additionally have Nick Klear (as our Cluster's Instituted Lector and Instituted Acolyte) present, as well as Judge Barrett and Brian Sprang (from ICC) to assist as pianist and cantor. Bishop wanted the barest minimum of assistants possible. Please understand the ongoing need to restrict on-site access for any other parishioners. This arrangement of assistants will also have the benefit of allowing representation from both parishes as we celebrate the most special days of the Church year united together as Hardin County Catholics.

#### **Holy Thursday:**

- The Vatican has directed that the "Washing of Feet" (already an optional element) be omitted this year.
- The Vatican has also directed that the "Transfer of the Holy Eucharist" to an Altar of Repose at the end of Mass be omitted.
- I will allow for a very brief moment of Adoration (via the ciborium upon the Altar after the 'Prayer After Communion', as is normally called for on Holy Thursday) prior to reposing the Blessed Sacrament into the main Tabernacle (as directed by the Vatican this year); we then conclude with the Recessional Hymn. Instead of the entire "Pange Lingua", the Recessional Hymn will simply be its typical final two verses (the English of 'Tantum Ergo', etc), as shown in the Worship Aid.
- After the Recessional Hymn, we will immediately "strip the altar" and the sanctuary as is customary. In order to allow participants to get a vivid sense that "Good Friday" is upon us, and especially in the absence of a locally-livestreamed Good Friday liturgy, we will keep the YouTube livestream feed going during the process of the stripping of the sanctuary, for you to watch if you wish.
- We hope to have the new Holy Oils present at this Mass, which Bishop Brennan will have blessed earlier that morning during the livestreamed "Chrism Mass" at the Cathedral. If the Diocese succeeds in distributing the new oils to the parishes as they plan later on Thursday, we will say special prayers of reception over the new oils after the Homily.

#### **Easter Morning:**

- The Mass will proceed basically as any Easter Morning Mass would.
- Remember that after the Homily, we observe the annual "Renewal of Baptismal Promises"; see the Worship Aid for your ideal responses, as you take this opportunity to renew your taking a bold and courageous stand in affirming your living faith in Jesus Christ.
- Wear your "Sunday Best"! You never know whether Father might be able to look through the internet into your living room! No pajamas! 😊