



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I want to thank you for your flexibility as well as the many kind notes of encouragement you have sent to me during these uncertain times. I have been working closely with parish leadership and staff and want to share some additional details on how we will go forward together.

First, our parish clergy plan to use flocknote as a means of communication for spiritual communion, Gospel reflections, novenas, and the like. We are working out the details of the timing, but will be posting a recording of the priest's private Sunday Mass at the rectory, starting this coming Sunday. This recording will be posted on the parish website and sent out through flocknote. The Bishop has forbidden any public Masses being said, so unfortunately we cannot receive guests at this Mass or come to private homes to offer Mass. Please see St. Gabriel Radio (<https://stgabrielradio.com>) for other options for Mass and prayer.

Even though St. Joan of Arc has effectively ceased most operations, the needs of the less fortunate have not gone away. In fact, these trying times have increased their needs on many levels. In response, St Teresa's Outreach will be hosting a food and supply drop at the parish from 10 – 12 every Sunday. The Church will be closed, but we will meet you at your car at the bell tower to receive food donations (and maybe even your envelope :->).

Following are the types of food and supplies that would be most helpful at this time, which will be taken to Help My Neighbor Food Pantry, Joint Organization for Inner City Needs, and also distributed by St. Teresa's Outreach to those in need in our community.

Needed Food and Supplies

Shelf stable milk or powdered milk

Spam

Boxed Mac and Cheese

Canned Chunky Soup, Stew, and/or Chili

Canned Tuna or Canned Chicken

Canned Ham

Pasta and Pasta Sauce (cans if possible)

Nuts

Canned Vegetables	Granola Bars
Rice or Instant Potatoes	Lysol or Clorox Wipes
Peanut Butter and Jelly	Fruit/Cereal Bars
Deodorant	Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap
Canned Fruit	Granola Bars
Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Napkins, Tissues	Toothpaste and Toothbrushes
Canned Beans	Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, or other Boxed Meals
Soap and Hand Sanitizer	3-1 Shampoo and Conditioner

In addition, St. Teresa's Outreach Sandwich Making/Trail-Mix Bagging ministry will be continued by our parish clergy at this time. These will be taken to the Cathedral Backdoor Ministry and St. Lawrence Haven to feed the homeless. St Teresa's Outreach will be announcing other initiatives to serve those in need going forward.

The extended time we are spending at home also gives us time to build up ourselves and our families. We will be continuing to share resources with you, but as a start we recommend that you alone, or as a family reflect on the Daily Readings from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, consider praying the Rosary, and continue to offer one of the prayers of Spiritual Communion below.

As a reminder, we are obliged by Christian charity to follow the directives of the civil authorities and our Bishop to not congregate in person in groups. In order to limit contact, we ask that requests for anointing and reconciliation be limited to Last Rites. All public and private confessions are otherwise cancelled. The status of First Communion and Confirmation are to be determined. I will update you as I am able.

Finally, in order that we might continue our charitable works to the poor and to make sure the parish savings does not take too much of a hit, we are encouraging everyone who is able to switch their weekly offerings to Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT). This can be done through visiting the "online giving" tab on the parish website. Offertory envelopes can also be mailed to the parish (10700 Liberty Rd. S., Powell, OH 43065). Mail will be checked every day.

Even though we are living in uncertain times, we can be assured of Christ's love for us and that He is with us. He promised that nothing will prevail against His Church, and this gives us great confidence and hope.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Reverend James P. Black, Pastor

Act of Spiritual Communion
by St. Alphonsus Liguori (A.D. 1696-1787)

My Jesus, I believe that Thou art present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love Thee above all things and I desire Thee in my soul. Since I cannot now receive Thee sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though thou wert already there, I embrace Thee and unite myself wholly to Thee; permit not that I should ever be separated from Thee.

Act of Spiritual Communion

O Immaculate Queen of Heaven and Earth, Mother of God and Mediatrix of every grace: I believe that Thy dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, is truly, really, and substantially contained in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love Him above all things and I long to receive Him into my heart. Since I cannot now receive Him sacramentally, be so good as to place Him spiritually in my soul.

O my Jesus, I embrace Thee as One who has already come, and I unite myself entirely to Thee. Never permit me to be separated from Thee. Amen.

Act of Spiritual Communion

As I cannot this day enjoy the happiness of assisting at the holy Mysteries, O my God! I transport myself in spirit at the foot of Thine altar; I unite with the Church, which by the hands of the priest, offers Thee Thine adorable Son in the Holy Sacrifice; I offer myself with Him, by Him, and in His Name. I adore, I praise, and thank Thee, imploring Thy mercy, invoking Thine assistance, and presenting Thee the homage I owe Thee as my Creator, the love due to Thee as my Savior.

Apply to my soul, I beseech Thee, O merciful Jesus, Thine infinite merits; apply them also to those for whom I particularly wish to pray. I desire to communicate spiritually, that Thy Blood may purify, Thy Flesh strengthen, and Thy Spirit sanctify me. May I never forget that Thou, my divine Redeemer, hast died for me; may I die to all that is not Thee, that hereafter I may live eternally with Thee. Amen.