

Important Parish News and Updates

As a result of the current COVID-19 outbreak, the Diocese of Hamilton is implementing [these further directives](#) regarding our pastoral practices in the diocese effective immediately.

- All Sunday and Weekday Masses are cancelled until further notice
 - No Public Celebration of Holy Week Ceremonies: A decree has been issued from the office of the Bishop regarding Holy Week ceremonies and the celebration of the Paschal Triduum 2020.

To this end, the Chrism Mass, Palm Sunday celebration, and the Sacred Triduum will not be celebrated publicly this year given the COVID-19 pandemic, but pastor's have been granted the faculty to celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper without the people and also read the passion of the Lord and say the Universal prayer on Good Friday with the people of God in mind especially those who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The decree reads in part “ Having reviewed the Decree: In Time of COVID-19, issued by mandate of Pope Francis and published by the offices of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments (Prot. N. 153/20) on March 19, 2020, I, Douglas Crosby, OMI, hereby decree the following to be observed during Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum 2020 in the diocese of Hamilton. The full decree can be accessed in full on the parish website or the diocesan website.

- All Churches will remain closed as all public Masses, devotions, parish group events and gatherings have been suspended until further notice.

- If you have an urgent pastoral need, or someone is in need of emergency pastoral care (the sick and the dying) please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office.
- Sacrament of the sick and Reconciliation will continue to be available provided the social distance protocol is maintained.
- Funerals Masses and receptions are not permitted at this time, though the rite of committal may be celebrated at the cemetery with immediate family members present.
- Should any parishioner be in need of groceries, prescriptions or other necessities, please don't hesitate to reach out through the parish office for some help and assistance.

In this time of need, parishioners are encouraged to pray for one another and for those whose lives may have been affected by this virus. The Rosary, prayerful reading of Sacred Scripture and other devotions are greatly encouraged.

There are links on the parish website to some TV channels like Vision TV, Salt + Light and Word on Fire where we could also watch the daily Mass at different times- (Vision TV: Sunday 8:00 a.m.; Monday- Friday 8:00 a.m., & 12:00 noon; Saturday 8: 00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

Salt + Light: Monday- Saturday 6:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. (with Pope), 11:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.; Sunday 11: 00 a.m. & 10:30 p.m.)

Please, let us continue to pray for the health and safety of each other, maintain important hygiene protocols- regular hand washing, maintaining social distancing and avoid large crowds among others,

while observing the advice from health care professionals and government bodies during these difficult and trying times in the knowledge that with the intercession of Our Blessed Mother Mary Immaculate and our collective efforts we shall together get through this challenging times. Please, stay safe and blessed!

Father Gordian Okpuruka

Pastor