

Church of St. Catherine

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A community of God's people united in one common belief in Jesus Christ, in communion with our Bishop and Holy Father, dedicated to the establishment of God's Kingdom.

Hello Everyone,

As Charles Dickens once wrote in his *Tale of Two Cities*, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times", I think we are experiencing this now. Yes this time during the coronavirus seems pretty bad, the worst of times. However, I can see a glimmer of best of times by the fact that this time period is allowing for families to be together and for us to resort to faith, prayer and fasting. Please continue with the prayers and fasting that this will be over soon.

The following is statement from Bishop John M. LeVoir of the Diocese of New Ulm regarding suspension of all public Masses.

I am concerned that all people be safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Consequently, due to the public health recommendations from President Trump's newly issued guideline that over the next 15 days, Americans should not gather in groups of more than ten people, I am immediately suspending all public Masses in the Diocese of New Ulm from March 18 until at least March 31. All Catholics in the diocese are dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass during this time.

The fundamental operating principles of the Diocese of New Ulm as we face this pandemic are prevention or the slowing down of the spreading of the virus, as well as the spiritual wellbeing of our parishioners, while not endangering oneself.

Up-to-date information pertaining to the coronavirus, including diocesan announcements, prayers, links to online and television Masses, and other resources, can be found on the Diocese of New Ulm website, www.dnu.org/covid19.

Because of this recent statement, we will not be having public Masses offered. Fr. Christian and I will still be celebrating Masses on our own at different times for the various intentions that were offered and for an end to this virus. Not only will we stop having public Masses, but we are also cancelling Stations of the Cross, the individual confession times that were scheduled (because they were offered before the Masses, which we are now being suspended) and our Reconciliation Service at 4pm at St. Catherine's on March 22nd. However, in a recent conversation I had with the Bishop and a recent alert, he is still encouraging prayer in our churches and Eucharistic Adoration to be offered. Although some parishes are choosing to cancel adoration, as you will see below, we will still be offering adoration times for the end of this virus and have the churches open for prayer. During the time of adoration,

Fr. Christian and I will offer individual confessions (but please go behind the screen if you do come). The reason for offering confessions and adoration is because we need prayer and mercy, and most likely the attendance at these events will probably have low numbers. With that being said, if you do come for adoration, please make sure you are sitting more than six feet apart from each other during that time.

We will also be offering Masses and Stations of the Cross live on the internet. You can go to our parish websites (www.mystcatherines.org or www.lowafc.org) and click on "Watch Mass" to watch Mass and Stations on Live Stream. Remember, you can only watch the Masses/Stations live at the time that they are being celebrated, (and not any earlier). All other Masses/Stations are just recordings. We will also be offering the recorded Masses on our websites and on the local access channel. If you have questions finding any of this, please call the parish offices.

We will be publishing more information to you as it comes in as well as any new announcements after the 31st date. However, in regarding any new information, instead of sending another letter, we encourage you to check our websites (see above) or listen to the radio (KLGR 1490 AM/95.9 FM · 97.7 Jack FM), or our Facebook page (Saint Catherine's Church).

Also, make sure you are not hoarding things like they are saying on the news (toilet paper and hand sanitizer, etc.). Even this morning, I saw a squirrel pull an entire ear of corn off of a family's tree when I was having breakfast at their house. Poor other squirrels. Remember to please pray that God ends this virus (prayers will be offered in this weekend's bulletins), and as our Lord said in the Book of Psalms, "Be still and know that I am God" (46:10). God will get us through this. May God bless you all and know of Fr. Christian's, Deacon Ryan's, and my prayers. May God bless us during this worst of times and make it, as we praise Him and put our faith in Him, the best of times!

In Christ through Mary,

Rev. Fr. Anthony R. Hesse

Confessions and Adoration for the end of virus

March 21st (9:00-10:00am) St. Anne, Wabasso and St. Mathias, Wanda

March 22nd (9:00-10:00am) St. Mary, Seaforth and Our Lady of Victory, Lucan
(4:00-5:00pm) St. Catherine, Redwood Falls

March 24th (9:00-10:00am) St. Mary, Seaforth

March 25th (9:00-10:00am) Our Lady of Victory, Lucan

March 26th (9:00-10:00am) St. Anne, Wabasso

(9:00am-6:00pm) St. Catherine, Redwood Falls (no confessions)

March 27th (9:00-10:00am) St. Mathias, Wanda and St. Catherine, Redwood Falls

March 28th (9:00-10:00am) St. Mary, Seaforth and Our Lady of Victory, Lucan

March 29th (9:00-10:00am) St. Anne, Wabasso and St. Mathias, Wanda

(4:00-5:00pm) St. Catherine, Redwood Falls

***Feel free to come during the daytime to any of the churches for private prayer.*

Mass on Live Stream

(www.mystcatherines.org or www.lowafc.org)

(click on "Watch Mass")

March 21st (8:00am)

March 22nd (10:00am)

March 24th-28th (8:00am)

March 29th (10:00am)

Stations of the Cross on Live Stream

(www.mystcatherines.org or www.lowafc.org)

(click on "Watch Mass")

March 20th, 24th, 25th, 26th, and 27th (6:00pm)