

# PASTOR'S LETTER

An update on the impact of CoVID19/Coronavirus & SJV

## Special Message from Fr. Ed



During these unprecedented times having to navigate the coronavirus pandemic, Fr. Ed speaks to the recent Safer-at-Home order and Archdiocesan updates.

## Greetings!

This week Governor Evers issued a month-long "Safer at Home" Order to help slow the spread of COVID-19, to try to flatten the curve and to help save lives.

The order began Wednesday and lasts through the deadline of his original Emergency Order, which is April 24, pending any superseding orders that could be issued. You can [read the full order here](#).

## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR ST. JOHN VIANNEY?

**Masses** will continue to be suspended. We will be adopting the recommendations from Rome that the celebrations of Holy Week not be public. We are discussing what we will offer and how, so that you, our parish family, are able to see these celebrations virtually. We will keep you updated, as we get closer.

[Click here for detailed liturgical modifications.](#)

**Parish Operations** have transitioned to accommodate the safer-at-home order. We will have select staff available and working remotely. All Directors, Teachers, and Leadership staff will be available by email only. Voicemails on church phone lines will be periodically checked.

**Essential Ministries** who serve the most vulnerable in our community will continue but with modifications. Because of the building closures, access is limited and should be coordinated with your ministry leader and staff liaison. Social distancing is always needed.

**Virtual Learning** will continue for our school students as we've been doing. Precious photos of our wonderful teachers and students are posted regularly on our [Facebook page](#).

**As a reminder, ALL non-essential activities, meetings, and church-related activities are canceled for the duration of this closure.**

As part of the order, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services is asking all Wisconsinites to limit their contact to five people. This does not mean five people at a time, rather five people total. There should not be dinner parties, small group gatherings, play dates, etc. All playgrounds in the state are closed as part of the order.

With that said, you are encouraged to utilize technology, if possible, to maintain social and spiritual connections. Call your friends and family, check in with people via text, FaceTime, do a Google Hangout. Turn to our mother church in the archdiocese, the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist for live streamed Masses. Staying connected while staying home is important.

Please know that we are here to support you in whatever way we can through these challenging times. Although the church and parish offices will be closed, you may reach us by email just as you have in the past. We will also check phone messages, with the option for urgent calls to be forwarded.

Thank you to everyone for your support through this unforeseen and difficult time. Please pray for the health and well being of our parishioners and those in need. I keep you and your loved ones in my prayers.

Blessings,

Very Rev. Edwin Kornath

P.S. For sacramental emergencies, please contact me directly at (262) 796-3951.



Would you like to help your community but don't want to leave your home? We have opportunities for you!

If you can sew, we need you. As you may have heard, there is a critical shortage of face masks for our area hospitals. If you sew 10 or more masks, we will pick them up and deliver them!

[Directions for face masks for Children's Hospital here.](#)

[Directions for face masks for Froedtert here.](#)

You may be asking yourself, how else can I help from home? We are looking for warm, friendly parishioners to make wellness calls to our most vulnerable parishioners. Checking in with our church family for any needs they may have or just to see how they are doing will work wonders for emotional health during this difficult time.

Please contact Katie Vitalbo by phone at (414) 234-8976 or email at [katiev@stjohnv.org](mailto:katiev@stjohnv.org) if either of these ministry opportunities sound like something you would like to do. Thank you for your generosity!

[stjohnv.org/parish](http://stjohnv.org/parish) & [stjohnv.org/school](http://stjohnv.org/school)



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