

St. Gregory

CATHOLIC CHURCH

PO Box 199, 214 Church Street, St. Nazianz, WI 54232
(920) 773-2511

March 19, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This week has brought about additional announcements from Bishop David Ricken of the Green Bay Diocese pertaining to the COVID-19 outbreak. As a result, Masses, special events, and activities at both Holy Trinity Parish and St. Gregory Parish are being adjusted. However, the parish offices will remain open at this time, continuing with their current office hours.

Masses (effective Friday, March 20, 2020)

- All public attendance at Masses (daily & weekend) is suspended indefinitely to be reviewed in mid-April.

Alternative Mass Options

- 10:30am Sunday, CBS affiliate, WFRV Local 5 (during suspension only)
- 5:30am Sunday, ABC affiliate, WBAY Channel 2
- 8am Sunday, channel CW14
- 9am Sunday Relevant Radio, 1050AM (radio Mass)

- Daily Mass is livestreamed Monday – Friday from the campus of Relevant Radio in Green Bay. Access the Mass at the Relevant Radio app or at the link <https://relevantradio.com/faith/daily-mass-video/>. Live at noon; video can be viewed any time throughout the day.

Mass Contributions

- Our parishes rely on weekly contributions for operational expenses. Even when Masses aren't celebrated, the monthly bills still arrive. You are strongly encouraged to continue contributing to your parish by mailing weekly contributions, delivering them to the office, or by electronic giving (direct deposit). The Church will continue her ministries during this period of financial strain. Please consider maintaining or increasing your level of contributions at this time.

If you wish to begin using direct deposit, contact the parish office for assistance.

Confessions

- Penance services are suspended until further notice. Individual confessions can be scheduled by contacting Father Tony at (920)286-4077.

Holy Week

- No public celebration of the Chrism Mass in Green Bay will occur.
- Holy Week and Sacred Triduum will not be celebrated with public Masses.
- No Easter Vigil Mass at Holy Trinity on Saturday, April 11.

Church Availability for Private Prayer

- Holy Trinity and St. Gregory Churches will be open weekdays during normal office hours.
- Weekend hours will be from 8am – 5pm.
- Stop by for private prayer, light a vigil candle, etc.

Faith Formation

- All Religious Education classes are suspended through April 6. The next scheduled class will take place Wednesday, April 15.
- All adult faith formation programs (Bible Study and Book Study) are suspended through mid-April. They are tentatively scheduled to resume the week of April 13.

Holy Hour, Stations of the Cross, and Other Devotional Gatherings

- All of them are suspended until the public celebration of the Mass resumes.

Scrip Program

- Scrip sales will continue through the parish offices. Stop in to purchase a scrip card to make your purchases at the grocery store, gas stations, or for curbside pick up from your local restaurants. Support your parish and local businesses during these challenging times!

Future Communications & Updates

- Future updates will be shared through email, Facebook, and the parish websites. To receive the email updates and help us save the cost of postage, please contact the parish office to share your email information. A weekly flyer (in place of the bulletin) will also be available at the back of the churches and posted on the websites to stay current with Bishop's Appeal and weekly contributions, daily readings, etc.

"In closing, let us pray for our health care professionals, first responders, paramedics, police officers, firefighters, and finally our priests, deacons, and pastoral leaders who are on the frontline of this outbreak providing support and care to those in greatest need. They are witnesses of Christ's love and concern to all of us. May Christ give them courage and strength as we respond to the changing landscape this virus presents." Bishop David Ricken

May God bless you and keep you and your family safe and healthy.

Remain Blessed,



Rev. Anthony Ibekwe

A Prayer Amid an Epidemic

By Kerry Weber

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the well-being of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness or only a few, Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of our anxiety, give us your peace.

Jesus Christ, heal us.

*Kerry Weber is an executive editor of **America**.*