

PASTORAL PLAN FOR REOPENING ST. JOAN OF ARC CHURCH

The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, issued by Bishop da Cunha, remains in effect until further notice. Those who are most vulnerable and at a greater risk due to age, preexisting health conditions, or in close proximity to vulnerable people are encouraged to remain home at this time. If you or a close loved one shows any symptoms of illness, please do not come to church.

The weekend Mass schedule here at St. Joan of Arc Church will remain the same throughout the summer months... Saturday at 5:00pm, Sunday at 8:00am and 10:00am. We have decided this primarily because adding another Mass on Sunday morning, as we normally do during the summer months, would not allow sufficient time to properly sanitize the church after each Mass. Mass intentions that have already been requested for 9:30am will be included with the 8:00am Mass for that day and the intentions requested for 11:00am will be remembered at the 10:00am Mass of that day unless otherwise requested. **During the week Mass is celebrated Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:00am.**

Per state regulations, gatherings cannot exceed 40% of a house of worship's occupancy capacity. Taking into account social distancing of 6 feet between people (or households), means only approximately 3 people in every other pew.

All worshippers will enter the church through the Main Entrance. For safety and order, a person will not be able to choose a specific seat. A specially trained group of greeters will be used to assist people to their seats. Once we reach our occupancy limit, we will not be able to admit others. Charity, cooperation and understanding are asked of all.

Everyone entering the church is required to wear a mask or other face covering. Please provide your own masks. While there is hand sanitizer available at the entrance, please consider providing your own, if you can, as supply is limited.

There will be receptacles at the entrance of the church in which you may place your contribution to the parish as you enter. You may place both 1st and 2nd collections together. On-line giving is encouraged via our parish website. Thank you so much for your support, especially at this extraordinary time.

The offertory procession (bringing up of the bread and wine) and the usual sign of peace will be eliminated. You may offer the sign of peace with a head nod and wave. The holy water fonts at the doors of the church will remain empty. Missals/hymnals have been removed as it would be difficult to sanitize them. Singing will be eliminated from our worship until further notice.

Holy Communion will be distributed at the usual time during the Mass. Those receiving Communion will approach row by row (keeping the 6 feet safe distancing protocol) and section by section. Please remain at your pew until your row is called. The priest will distribute Communion with sanitized hands while wearing a mask. Communicants may lift their mask just prior to receiving Holy Communion.

Following the Final Blessing, please immediately, reverently and quietly leave the church by the door closest to your pew maintaining the 6 feet distancing protocol. Upon exiting the church, please refrain from congregating near the doors of the church. After each Mass, the tops of the benches, door handles and other high traffic areas will be sanitized.

Scheduling for Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers will be suspended for the time being. All parish ministries and events will remain suspended until further notice. The church will be closed following each Mass. The Parish Office, Faith Formation Office and Thrift Shop will remain closed.

I encourage all who make the prudent judgement for themselves not to return to church for Mass, to instead participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and view other good quality spiritual programming on Catholic TV, found on your local cable Channel 268 or on EWTN, Channel 56. Mass is televised each Sunday at 11:00am on Channel 6. You can also view daily Mass on-line at <http://www.catholictv.org/masses/catholictv-mass>.

Let us remember one another in prayer especially those most in need of our prayers at this time. Let us commit ourselves to prayer for an end to the COVID-19 coronavirus.

God bless,
Fr. Bill Rodrigues



During these difficult days, our country will observe this week our 4th of July Independence Day. As a history buff, I have always enjoyed the study of world history. One of the fascinating stories in our American history is the friendship of the second and third Presidents of the United States, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. These fellow patriots turned adversaries, died on the same day within five hours of each other.

History records that John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both believed in democracy and the ideals of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. However, their opinions on how to achieve these ideals diverged over time. It appeared the former friends would remain eternal enemies. As the years past Jefferson and Adams each expressed to third parties and mutual friends their respect for the other and their desire to renew their friendship. Adams was the first to break the silence. He sent Jefferson a letter dated January 1, 1812, in which he wished Jefferson many happy new years to come. Jefferson responded with a note in which he fondly recalled the days when they were fellow laborers in the same cause. They went on to resume their friendship over 14 years of correspondence. On July 4, 1826, the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, at the age of 90, Adams lay on his deathbed in Massachusetts while the country celebrated Independence Day. His last words were, "Thomas Jefferson still survives." He was mistaken. Jefferson had died five hours earlier at Monticello in Virginia at the age of 83.

This week on the 4th of July perhaps we can, as people of faith, pray for our country, for healing, for forgiveness, for justice, for peace, for mercy, for an understanding of the sincere good will held by neighbors who may not share our beliefs and for a greater realization of the ideals of our founding.

Remembering the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi we pray:

*Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy;
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life*



79th Annual Catholic Appeal
DIOCESE OF FALL RIVER

DONATIONS TO DATE: \$32,585.00

ANNUAL DIOCESAN CATHOLIC APPEAL

SPOKEN FROM THE HEART: “The Pro-Life Boot Camp is a way for youth to come together and learn about the dignity and the respect we should have for life, for all age groups. What makes my faith come alive is when I see all different age groups come together: when we went to a nursing home and I saw the younger kids interact with the elderly. It was really nice for them to understand, just because they’re not your age doesn’t mean that dignity is not there. It was really nice for them to see that dignity in the elderly, to just sit there and talk to them and have conversations with them, like they would with their peers. My faith comes alive when I see that.”

—Edilia Alves, Staff Member
Pro-Life Boot Camp

Your gift to the 2020 Catholic Appeal gives the next generation a chance to attend Pro-Life Boot Camp and take part in the many activities offered through the Office of Pro-Life throughout the year. You can make your Appeal gift or pledge today by mail, in church, or online at . You can learn more by visiting www.catholicfoundationsema.org/edilia/

If you are unable to make a financial gift, the gift of your prayers in support of these ministries is greatly appreciated.

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**SHARE THE NEWS**

Please help us share parish news and updates by mentioning to your neighbors and friends that the weekly bulletin and other parish and diocesan news can be found on our parish website, [www.joanarc.org](http://www.joanarc.org).

**A SNAPSHOT OF HUMANITY**

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo’s briefing on the pandemic and the state of affairs in New York has been televised daily. Earlier in the crisis the governor concluded the day’s briefing by reading a hand-written letter from a sheet of yellow notepad paper he had received from a retired farmer from Kansas:

*“Dear Mr. Cuomo, I seriously doubt that you will ever read this letter as I know you are busy beyond belief with a disaster that has befallen our country. We are a nation in crisis, of that there is no doubt. I’m a retired farmer hunkered down in northeast Kansas with my wife who has but one lung and occasional problems with her remaining lung. She also has diabetes. We are in our seventies now and frankly I am afraid for her. Enclosed, find a solitary N95 mask – left over from my farming days. It has never been used. If possible, would you please give this mask to a nurse or doctor in your state? I have kept four masks for my immediate family. Please keep on doing what you do so well – which is to lead.”*

*Sincerely, Dennis and Sharon Ruhnke*

A visibly moved Governor Cuomo held up the mask commenting on the generosity of spirit of this Kansas farmer who sent this one mask to New York to help protect a doctor or a nurse. He said: *“You want to talk about a snapshot of humanity...? How beautiful is that? I mean how selfless? How giving is that...? It is this kind of thoughtfulness that makes America beautiful – a simple, straightforward act of kindness that, for me, makes up for all the ugliness that you see.”*

When reporters tried to interview Mr. Ruhnke, all he had to say was that given the need, *he would have felt terrible not to lend a helping hand – in this case a mask!*

A simple face mask given to protect a doctor or nurse in a place *far away but close to the heart* mirrors the love that Jesus speaks of in today’s Gospel: a generosity of heart and compassion of spirit that is prophetic – a sign to all that God is in our midst.

To *“receive the prophet’s reward”* is to seek out every opportunity, to use every talent with which we have been blessed – to make the love of God a living reality in every life we touch. The Gospel *“cup of water”* can be as simple and ordinary as a face mask. Let us be mindful that our acts of kindness – no matter how small – are indelibly imprinted into a beautiful and transformational snapshot of humanity

**PLEASE HELP US KEEP  
THESE LISTS UP TO DATE**

**PRAY FOR THE ILL OF THE PARISH**

Martin Coughlin, Loretta Stephens, Harry Marcoux, John Keane, Tris Windle, David Cousins, Lynne Scalia, Alex Podeszwa, Thomas Stone, Nick Bartick, Pam Hedlund, Len Hedlund, Greg Morongell, Nora Gould, Edan Pearl, Anne Caruso, John M. Pollard, Peter Cruckshank, Bill Hannon, Ivy Davis, Maddy Hayes, Clare Stevenson, Joseph Nosari, Vincent Lencvewski, Jeffrey Wolfgang, Joan Ouellette, Bev Sarazin, Tyler Benscoter, Agnes Wolfgang, Fr. Paul Smith, Marilyn Drewes, Ray Castriotta, Julianne Sullivan, Robert Grudzina, Marge LaGrassa, Jim Lewis, Joyce Loechner, Frank Salomone, Chad Larivee, Dick Wentworth, Nuvia Downs, Karen Mary McNulty, Olivia Hart, Alex Haas, Patrick Devine, Gerry Csaposs, Addie Priess, Frank McCarthy, Andree Yager, Loretta Reiter, Paul Kasczak, Patty Camarra, James Manley, Betty Babcock, Thomas Murphy, Chris Frazier, Melissa K., Baby Lillian Thoman, Jessica O., Fran McDonagh, Donna Hibbert, Margaret Royce, Beth Nixon, Anne O'Brien, Ben McMahan, Gerry Moynihan, Martha Moynihan, Richard Paskiewicz, Mary Rodrigues, Emily Sparks, Stephen Moreau, Paula Madeiro, Paul Brandon, Rita Folger, Gerri DiCristina, Kathleen Kilmer, Marguerite Forren, Mary Pickard, Deepthi Moola, Steve Novick, Ernie T., Eleanor Symecko, Joseph Wignot, Hector Pelletier, Bob Cunnane, Thomas McSparran

**PRAY FOR OUR ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE  
MEN AND WOMEN**

Brandy Nelson, Timothy Horigan, Scott Doucette, Michael Wilson, David Lucas, Sean Lucas, Peter Civita Shayne, Peter Cabral, Gregory DeLuca, Joshua Schmitt, Joseph Long, Brad Howard, Thomas Scudder, Jeffrey Stebbins, Phillip McDonough, David Wilcox, John Amick, David McDonald, Lt. Edward J. Maloney, Andrew Kelley, William James Miller, David Orloski, Stephen Tammaro, Michael L. Hamilton, Thomas Crawford, Aaron Charette, Nicholas McGahey, Edward Pruffer, Christian P. Goodman, Trevor Lafontaine, Connor Lafontaine, Colin Bracken, Michael Bracken

**FR. BILL'S HOMILIES ON SJA WEBSITE**

Audio recordings of Fr. Bill's homilies are uploaded to our Parish Website each week. Go to [www.joanarc.org](http://www.joanarc.org) to find the audio link on our home page.

*Please keep these deceased loved ones in your prayers.*

**THIS WEEK**

Saturday 5:00 Anna & Edward Majewski  
Sunday 8:00 Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family  
10:00 Alex Tinant  
Monday 8:00 Richard Auda  
Tuesday 8:00 Jim Filliman  
Wed 8:00 Patricia Twerago  
Fri 8:00 John Freeman

**NEXT WEEKEND**

Saturday 5:00 Peter Leheney  
Sunday 8:00 John & Janice Carey  
Charlie Wolff  
Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family  
10:00 John Dowman

**PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED**

Rebecca Szczygielski

**COLLECTION RESULTS—THANK YOU!**

June 21 Regular \$5,866.00

*Your generosity to St. Joan of Arc is greatly appreciated.*

*June 28 2nd Collection — Latin America*

**GABRIEL SYSTEM ON-LINE GIVING**

We are so grateful to all who have donated through the envelope system or through Gabriel, our new on-line giving program. **Whether you choose to continue with the envelopes or donate on-line, we encourage everyone to register with Gabriel so we can build an up-to-date parish census including emails and mobile phone numbers to better handle situations like this going forward.** **Directions:** On the left-hand side of the SJA website home page scroll down beneath the photo of the church until you see the Online Giving Icon. Click the icon which gives you two options: one to register and one to donate. Please register BEFORE making an on-line donation so the system will recognize you.

