

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 judgment 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.

**MASS INTENTIONS
THIS WEEK**

Saturday 5:00 Alma & John Csaposs
Mary & Ben McMahon
Sunday 8:00 Rose Ingham, Scott Norrie
Harry & Esther Folger
Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
10:00 Jack Largey
Monday 8:00 Edward J. McCormick
Tuesday 8:00 Laurie Maegerle
Wed 8:00 Laurie Maegerle
Fri 8:00 Charles Cacciola

NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday 5:00 Casey-Sahner-Phillips Family
Sunday 8:00 Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
10:00 Nathan & Mary Anthony

COLLECTION RESULTS—THANK YOU!

August 9 Regular	\$ 5,832.35
August 9 Harvest	\$ 1,381.00
Diocesan Appeal	\$57,665.00

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

GABRIEL SYSTEM ON-LINE GIVING

Thanks 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.

Before making your initial on-line donation, it is necessary to register so the system will recognize you. You need only register once.

**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 Cruickshank, Bill Hannon, Ivy Davis, Maddy Hayes, Clare Stevenson, Joseph Nosari, Vincent Lencvewski, Jeffrey Wolfgang, Joan Ouellette, Bev Sarazin, Tyler Bencoter, 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 Kascsak, 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 McMahon, 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 McSparron

**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 Prufer, Christian P. Goodman, Trevor Lafontaine, Connor Lafontaine, Colin Bracken, Michael Bracken

PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED

John Frank

ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS!

Blessings and congratulations to our long-time parishioners, Dr. Frank & Alice Kessler, who celebrated 65 years of marriage on Thursday, August 13.

LOCAL RE-OPENS

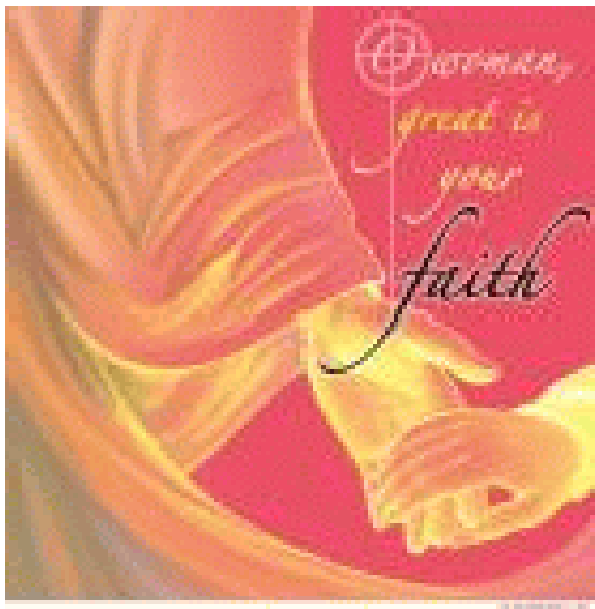
LOCAL volunteers are providing lunches and other grocery items for TAKE-OUT from the Parish Center each Tuesday. Pick up time is from 11:30 to 12:30 only. Those picking up items must wear face masks and bring their own bags. Social distancing must be maintained and only one person at a time will be allowed into the center where volunteers will distribute meals and some groceries immediately inside the doors. We are happy to be able to provide this once-a-week service.

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.

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 to find the audio link on our home page.



Weekly Reflection by Judy Burt Walker, Director of Faith Formation

SOMOS PERSONAS—WE ARE PEOPLE!

Paul Sutherland writes of traveling to a beach in Nicaragua with his family in an article he wrote for *Spirituality and Health*. During their long drive, they came to a narrow street in the village of Santa Teresa. Suddenly there was a thud and the family van tilted as the front tire lodged itself in an uncovered drainage hole. Some men from the village tried to push the van, but it wouldn't budge.

Then a farmer drove by on a tractor. He pulled the tractor up in front of the van and ran to a nearby shop. Without saying a word, he reappeared with a length of blue rope – one end of which he tied to the van's chassis – the other end he hitched to the chain on the rear of his tractor. In a minute the van was freed from the hole.

Sutherland was overcome with gratitude. "*Gracias*", he kept saying and tried to hand the farmer some money, but the farmer refused to take it. "*For your family*", said Sutherland. But the farmer just repeated: "*Somos personas – Somos personas*"

Finally the family got back in the van and started on their way. Sutherland's daughter asked her dad if he knew what the farmer had said. When he shook his head negatively, she told him:

"Dad, he was saying 'We are people' – 'we are the same, we are all people. We are here to help one another. We are people – Somos personas.'"

The Canaanite woman who is pleading for her daughter in today's Gospel, reflects God's vision of our shared humanity. Despite the ridicule and abuse she endures, she believes in the idea of '*Somos personas*' – that *we are people* all held in the hand and the heart of God. As a Canaanite and a woman, this mother represents a despised enemy of the Israeli community – an outsider in every way. In honoring her goodness and love, Christ opens our eyes and hearts to see one another as God sees us.

Paul Sutherland comes to the same realization through the generosity of a poor Nicaraguan farmer. The call to discipleship demands that we look beyond labels and stereotypes to realize that every one of us is a child of God – brothers and sisters all. "*We are people – we are the same. We are here to help one another – Somos personas!*"

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