

Dear Parishioners,

As your pastor, my first concern is for you and the spiritual welfare of our parish community. I pray that you are able to stay safe and do your best to protect your health and safety and that of your family. I assure you that you are in my thoughts and prayers frequently. As our priests offer private Masses each day, you and your intentions are included.

Not long ago, I was able to present a very positive financial report to the parish at all the weekend Masses. At that time, I reminded our parishioners that **our weekly offertory collection will always remain our primary source of income**. In light of that fact, the current suspension of public Masses raises serious financial issues for our parish. Just as in your household, we will struggle to meet our ordinary expenses which do not go away in a time of crisis. Basic maintenance costs, utilities, and staff salaries all continue. Our 2019-2020 parish budget foresees \$30,000 income each week from the offertory collection.

Sustaining our offertory allows us to continue our mission without operating at a deficit. Your commitment to our parish is important and we ask:

- **Those of you who use weekly offertory envelopes, to please enclose your giving into the special mailing envelope that comes in your packet**
- **Many of you pay your bills using online banking bill pay, you can choose St. Patrick Church to receive donations to Sunday Collection this way**
- **This may also be a time to consider using *Online Giving* as a way of contributing to the parish during this time. <https://www.osvonlinegiving.com/58> Thank you for whatever you can do.**

I realize that some of you are experiencing budget problems of your own at this time and I am not asking to cut yourself short. But please keep in mind the needs of our parish during these uncertain times. We do not know for how many weeks we will be without Mass. But we will continue to be here for you. We continue to be a community of faith even if we cannot gather together. Just remember: together we will get through this.

In one Heart,

Fr. Ron