

NOTE FROM FR. JOHN

Easter Week

4/14/2020

Dear Parishioners:

I think we would agree that this was a most unusual Easter. I want to thank those who helped in making the Holy Week liturgies memorable under extraordinary circumstances. Who would ever think that we would be live streaming through our parish Facebook account? My thanks to Sarah Haase (production supervisor), Anne and Jim Holland (music), Jeanne LiMarzi, Peggy Slavin, (altar decorations), Roberta Ruppel (lector). Until we are able to celebrate together again, we will live stream Sunday mass at 10am on our Facebook page.

- (1) The virus has touched our parish family in different ways: some have tested positive, some have lost loved ones, some are part of the medical response. Please keep them in your prayers.
- (2) When we begin to meet again, I will designate a Saturday in the fall to celebrate a memorial mass for those mass intentions that could not be fulfilled with the suspension of daily and weekend masses.
- (3) Once again, thank you very much for your continuous financial support of our parish. The online giving on our parish website is an unqualified success. In addition, Sunday envelopes keep arriving by drop off and by mail. Thank you. I just discovered something I was not aware of: when scotch tape is used to seal church envelopes, the envelope company, DP Murphy, charges us a fee to remove any scotch tape remnants before they feed the envelopes into an automatic reader. How would you know this? I didn't. No need to use scotch tape.
- (4) Please encourage other parishioners to submit their email address to our parish. Communicating to our parishioners by Flocknote is the easiest and quickest method available to us. We promise that we will not annoy you with inconsequential emails. Also, we continue to publish our weekly bulletin online.
- (5) We are working with the diocese and our accountant to apply for our just portion of the federal payroll relief money. However, we learned that our parish bank, Tompkins, is not a participant in the program. As you may know, small businesses submit the completed paperwork to their banking institution. We need to determine how we overcome this obstacle when our bank is not a participant. The diocese is assisting.
- (6) I heard on Easter that Fr. Jim Gavin died on the 11th at the age of 81. Many of you would know Fr. Jim from his time at the Magdalene as a Sunday assistant. Please remember him in your prayers. My own classmate, Msgr. Guastella, died of the virus last week. The diocese of Bergamo, Italy, a hotspot for the virus, lost 20 priests to the virus. Please remember these priests in your prayers.
- (7) A final thought: My radar tells me that this virus will continue to stalk us in the coming months. As a consequence, many people will hesitate to be in the

company of large gatherings, including Sunday mass, concerts, sports events, etc. I would like to continue the live streaming of at least one Sunday mass when we return to our normal schedule, in order that parishioners who may be hesitant about attending mass in person may still be connected to their home parish. Sarah Haase has been invaluable in helping with the live streaming with her cell phone! I would like to kick this up a notch by getting whatever professional equipment we might need to do this on a permanent basis. I need direction. Can someone tell me: what do we need and how best to do it? Cost is not a problem.

POPE FRANCIS CALLS CARDINAL TIMOTHY DOLAN TO EXPRESS LOVE AND CONCERN FOR THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK

(New York, NY) **Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of New York**, released the following statement today, Tuesday, April 14, 2020.

“Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, called me this afternoon at about 2:00 p.m. to express his love, concern, and closeness to all the people of New York, especially those who are sick, during the coronavirus outbreak.

The Pope, who was calling from his residence in the *Doma Santa Marta*, said that New Yorkers were in his prayers in a special way at this time. He asked me to relay his prayerful best wishes to the sick, the doctors, nurses, EMT’s, medical professionals, and caregivers who are tending to them, our civic leaders, as well as our priests, religious, and lay people. He mentioned in a special way Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio and the people of the Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens, and I happily shared the Holy Father’s words with Bishop DiMarzio immediately thereafter.

I thanked the Pope for the leadership he has displayed during this global pandemic, and assured him of the love and prayers of the people of New York for him and his ministry.”

CARDINAL’S STEWARDSHIP APPEAL 2020:

As of 4/3/2020

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Pledged</u>	<u># of Donors</u>	<u>Donor Goal</u>
\$48,000	\$28,095	61	130

To make your gift online, visit cardinalsappeal.org.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS: Reminder: Please do not tape or staple the envelopes. Just seal them. The tape or staple causes problems with D. P. Murphy when they calculate the envelopes. Thank you so much!

ANYONE IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE? Please contact rectory at 914-631-0529 if you need help during this difficult time (food shopping, etc.).