

“[Those who trust in the Lord] are like a tree planted beside the water...
In the year of drought it shows no distress, but still produces fruit.” – Jeremiah 17:8

Dear Parishioners

May the peace of Christ be with you and your loved ones!

Preparations being put in place to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community present us with both challenges and opportunities. The priority of Saint Charles is to care for our families and minister to them in every way we can.

As you know, the Diocese of Richmond has suspended all public Masses until further notice. Bishop Knestout will be updating us regularly. You can check the diocesan website for these updates at <https://richmonddiocese.org/coronavirus/>.

Through all of this, Saint Charles will remain a community of faith that trusts in the Lord and shares His blessings with each other. We are moving forward with new ways to minister to our parish families, including:

1. **Celebrating livestreamed Masses:** Updates and links will be available on our website at www.stcharlesbcc.org. Many Churches in the Hampton Roads area are live streaming Masses. Please check out the FaceBook pages of Saint Brendas, Saint Nichlas and Church of the Ascension for Masses in English, Saint Peters and Holy Trinity for Masses in Spanish and Saint Benedict for Mass in Latin. You can also watch Bishop Knestout celebrate Mass live at www.richmonddiocese.org at 10 AM on Sunday.
2. **Catholic Mass on Television:** Direct TV channel 370 and DishNetwork channel 261. www.catholictv.org/schedule is a good resource for Mass Times.

We are committed to making the most of this time and help draw families closer to Christ. In times of crisis, people look to Christ and his Church. Saint Charles will be here to serve.

There are three things that I'm asking you to do right now, *today*:

1. **Pray.** Remember God does not abandon his children. Please join me in praying for the following:
 - All the sick and suffering around the world, and families affected by the coronavirus
 - Those who are struggling financially because of this crisis
 - First responders, medical personal and all government leaders
 - Our parish, your pastor, bishop and the Holy Father in Rome
2. **Continue to support our parish - online.** I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the continued financial stewardship of parishioners and friends during this difficult time. With public Masses suspended, I am asking every family to move their financial support online:

- a. You can find giving options online <https://offertory.richmonddiocese.org/> On the giving page, choose Saint Charles in the dropdown list. Please consider setting up a recurring gift to help our parish for the future.
- b. You can donate at our website www.stchatlebcc.org by clicking on the donate page in the upper right of the home page. Please consider setting up a recurring gift to help our parish for the future.
- c. You can mail your gift to Saint Charles, 545 Randolph Avenue, Cape Charles, VA 23310

God bless you for your generosity!

I will continue to provide updates, primarily through our parish Website at www.stcharlesbcc.org , and occasionally through email .

Please know that you are in my prayers. Have faith! Let us rally together behind what is most important in our lives – God, family, and our Saint Charles community.

Yours In Christ,

Rev. J. Michael Breslin
Pastor