

# April 19, 2020

Dear parishioners and friends of St. Joseph,

Happy Easter! Remember the Easter season is 50 days! I pray that the joy of the Risen Christ continues to bring you peace and comfort.

In my weekly update, I wish to once again thank you all for the many compliments, emails, phone calls, texts, facebook messages and the like, thanking me for my efforts. It is a joy to serve the Lord as a priest and I am doing my best at keeping Christ at the forefront of your minds. Thank you also for the parishioners who have dropped off food for myself- I am humbled and grateful. Thanks especially for the donations towards the GBF. A truck from GBF came on Wednesday afternoon to collect the donations and they are already using your donations to those most in need - thank you so much!

1. Media coverage continues for our parish:

We were featured as the cover on the Catholic Register, and another article was completed on us

<https://www.catholicregister.org/item/31347-priests-finding-ways-to-connect>

And recently on Easter Sunday – we were featured by the Hamilton Spectator

<https://www.thespec.com/news/hamilton-region/2020/04/12/no-parishioners-no-problem-father-rico-passero-preaches-to-photos-on-easter-sunday.html>

Masses continue to be Live streamed through my Facebook account, later uploaded on the parish YouTube channel and Sunday liturgies are also loaded to the parish website. This will continue for the foreseeable future while we dealt with COVID and closed churches across the Diocese until at LEAST May 30.

2. Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday. Mass will be Live streamed at 10:30am. We will also have our Divine Mercy celebration as scheduled for 2:30pm Live Streamed on Facebook as well. Note that the 2:30pm celebration IS NOT MASS – please participate in Mass in the morning or use another source. While I had booked Nancy Bodsworth, Catholic recording artist, to lead our music, understandably, with a young family she had to cancel due to the virus. She has approved my continued use of her music and I have been using her CD to lead the Divine Mercy chaplet during our Parish Daily Holy Hour this week and will do so in the future. Linda Guralski, Director of Music at our 5pm Saturday Mass, will be leading the music during the Divine Mercy Celebration and I will use the CD to pray the chaplet. Please join us online to pray as Christ commands as we beg the Mercy of God upon ourselves, our loved ones and the entire world.

3. I encourage parish groups – especially leaders, to look to use electronic measures to reach out to one another – email, Facetime, Skype, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, and many other platforms are a great way of staying connected to one another. Please continue to pray for and care for one another. You

should have all received my Robo call on Saturday at 2pm wishing you all a Happy Easter. Thank you for caring so much about each other. As St. Paul reminds us – we are one in Christ. There are many groups using these platforms – let's stay connected!

4. Thank you again for remembering the parish's needs in regards to finances. Please continue to use the parish etransfer email – [myparishgift@gmail.com](mailto:myparishgift@gmail.com). Anyone can use this system and it is very easy. You may also wish to drop off your parish envelopes in the mailbox just outside the parish doors. I check and empty it several times a day. It is a safe way of dropping off your donations. God bless you all for your generosity.

5. The St. Joseph Schedule for the week ahead (remember times given are for the Live Stream on Facebook, uploaded later to YouTube). Everything given here is ONLINE only – please stay home

Saturday April 18

Mass - 9:00am

Holy Hour 9:30am

Sunday April 19 – Divine Mercy Sunday / 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter

Mass – 10:30am

Divine Mercy Celebration – 2:30pm

Monday April 20

Mass – 9:00am

Holy Hour – 3:00pm

Tuesday April 21

Mass – 9:00am

Holy Hour – 3:00pm

Wednesday April 22

Mass – 9:00am

Holy Hour (Worship Wednesday) - 3:00pm

Thursday April 23

Mass – 9:00am

Holy Hour – 3:00pm

Friday April 24

Mass - 9:00am

Holy Hour – 12:00pm

If you have any pastoral needs, please email or call the parish.

You remain in my daily prayers – please pray for me.

God bless,

Fr. Rico