



St. Jerome Church

**FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH
MARCH 19, 2020**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I hope and pray each day that you and your family are doing well. As Friday is a special day of prayer and penance, I would like to suggest that you and your family, or perhaps you and someone you love "connect" to do a Friday Spiritual Communion over the phone.

For those not old enough to remember fasting from midnight and pre-mass confession, "Spiritual Communion" was sometimes used for those who for whatever reason (broken fast, mortal sin, no mass available) were unable to receive Jesus' Real Presence under the form of bread. The practice predates St. Thomas Aquinas (1225) as he writes about Spiritual Communion as a powerful tool to help the faithful, consciously and intentional, to open themselves to the presence and spirit of Jesus Christ.

I am sharing with you the Spiritual Communion Prayer composed by St. Alphonsus Liguori. (See other side)

The sisters at St. Jerome's and I are praying for you at mass each day. (I am allowed to do one private mass each day.) As two of the sisters are nurses, they truly appreciate the Eucharist as they return from and prepare for caring for the sick and aged.

To date, I have only had two deathbed anointings. Neither were corona related, nor were they our parishioners, but do keep them and all the sick and dying in your prayers. Remember that you have my cell number in the bulletin for emergencies. (Please, do leave your name and message.)

God alone knows what is happening for Holy Week and Easter, but you can come to St. Jerome for a drive through confession (in our parking lot) on Friday between 9am and 10am and on Saturday between 4pm and 5pm. The church is opened each day between 8am and 10am. The door by the stairs is open so you need not touch enter or leaving. The Blessed Sacrament is being exposed at those times. The church will also be opened on Saturday between 3pm and 5pm.

I do need your assistance. Our parish needs your assistance. Without Sunday services our income is minimal yet bills continue to arrive. Please mail in your Sunday donation or donate to our parish at our website. Thank you for your generosity.

For those who are interested, my mom is doing great. She is more concerned about me (visiting the sick), her kids, grand and great grandchildren then her own health. She is keeping us in her prayers.

The International Festival which was set for Pentecost weekend is being postponed until possibly September.

Our "On-Line" school is doing well. I have found that several of our families are involved in the medical field. Please keep them and all those working with and for the sick in your prayers.

Please do pray for all those on our parish sick list. I would suggest praying the rosary and as you do each "Hail Mary" call to mind or name a person you wish to lift up in prayer... and perhaps include the names of our parish's sick.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support,
Fr. Bill

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St Jerome's Catholic School (pre-K to 8th gr):	310-670-1678	
www.st-jeromeschool.org	Principal: Mr. Tom MacDonald	

SUGGESTION: Why not pray together as a family and/or call someone you love on Friday and ask them to pray A Spiritual Communion with you?

A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION SERVICE (Friday, March 20th)

SIGN OF THE CROSS: In the name of the Father...

From the gospel according to Mark (Mk 12:28-34)

One of the scribes came to Jesus and asked him, "Which is the first of all the commandments?"

Jesus replied, "The first is this: Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

The scribe said to him, "Well said, teacher. You are right in saying, He is One and there is no other than he. And to love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."

And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, he said to him, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God."

And no one dared to ask him any more questions.

The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

(If time permits, invite your beloved or family members to share a thought on the scripture if they desire to.)

LITANY FOR THE SICK

Let us pray to God for those who are sick and for all those who care for them.

Bless the sick with hope and strength: Lord, have mercy. *R. Lord, have mercy.*

Relieve their pain: Lord, have mercy. *R. Lord, have mercy.*

Free them from sin and do not let them give way to doubt or temptation: Lord, have mercy. *R. Lord, have mercy.*

Assist all who care for the sick: Lord, have mercy. *R. Lord, have mercy.*

Guide doctors, nurses and scientists as they seek treatments and cures for the coronavirus: Lord, have mercy. *R. Lord, have mercy.*

Bless and protect our families and friends from all harm, anxiety and evil: Lord, have mercy. *R. Lord, have mercy.*

Watch over our Church and help us to be witnesses of hope, forgiveness and love: Lord, have mercy. *R. Lord, have mercy.*

Now let us make a Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

(Pray together an Our Father, a Hail Mary and a Glory Be.)

BLESSING

May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

Conclude with the Sign of the Cross

Please Pray for the Sick

Hector G. Amezcua	Jamie Brazile
Vincent Butt	Hazel Chu
Terri Chacon	Rorrie de la Vega
Agatha Ezeani	Xavier Galindo
Mark Gauerke	Anne Gingras
Michelle Gonzalez	Dindo Honrado
Monique Isaac	Eileen LaCasse
Tom Lenert	John Marcello
John McCreary	Louise Meehan
Caroline Metz	Allene Muccia
Nina Mueller	Scott Petty
Sam Quatto	Eileen Reyes
Maria Ross	Genny Sotto-Camor
Dianne Smith	Betty Spindler
Gary Steed	Brooklyn Dvi-Vardhana
Cynthia Flores Zapata	Natalie Tun