



“Everything looks bigger when it is under a microscope.”

I have never considered Eucharist or Confession “non-essentials.” Knowing that Louis Vuitton, donut shops, liquor stores and restaurants are all considered essential... and that the church is not... leaves me disappointed. Zoom is better than nothing, but nothing is better than being filled with the Real Presence of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

St. Jerome Daily Mass is at 8am on Zoom:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday.

For St. Jerome Zoom Masses:

Zoom Meeting number: 661-442-999

Zoom Password: 162 954

As Friday is our St. Jerome School Mass it is not available as a part of our Safe Child Policy. I can only promise you that these little angels are praying for you.

Sunday Mass is at 5:30pm on Zoom. Our teens who are preparing for Confirmation are required to be “present” for this Zoom which is available for all. Use the Zoom number and password found above.

Anointing of the Sick remains the only sacrament available and Last Rites are possible “when allowed.” Call if needed.

I have made skin to skin contact with only six people since March 15th. (Probably the last time many received communion.) I am not a big hugger by nature but I do miss the occasional handshake or farewell hug. Yes, I hunger for touches (song lyrics?) but my dog, Sparta, and my cat, Fuzzybob, do hop into my lap to reassure me. By the way, of the six people I have touched, three are dead and three look pretty good now. For the record, only one of the dead was corona related... but that was more like the straw breaking the camel’s back... and not the cause of death.

One of the Corporal Works of Mercy is helping bury the dead. My heart hurts for people who have lost loved ones,

although I am thankful that our monthly death rate at Saint Jerome is the lowest we have had during my tenure.

We had an unexpected passing on Wednesday. St. Jerome School’s Coach Shanese Washington died suddenly. I will miss her joy, energy and evident love for our kids at physical education or when she coached our basketball and volleyball teams. I consider Shanese to be a woman of faith who the Lord is proud to call His own. It is her family, friends and students who will feel the loss, while Shanese is gifted with the ultimate gain. Let us keep Shanese and all those who mourn her departure in our prayers.

St. Jerome’s Tuesday Night Bible Study will begin a special on-line study of the Acts of the Apostles on Tuesday night, **April 21, 7:30pm**, using Zoom web conferencing.

Acts of the Apostles tells the story of the spread of the Gospel and the growth of the early church from its beginnings at Pentecost. The Holy Spirit empowers the preaching of Peter and guides the missionary travels of Paul to take the faith from Jerusalem, to Judea, throughout Samaria and ultimately to the ends of the earth. It is appropriate for us to study Acts at this time since readings from the Acts of the Apostles are featured as the First Reading on Sundays during the Easter Season. This study will hopefully keep us connected to Jesus and to each other during this time of distance and quarantine.

All are welcome. No (bible) experience necessary. This study will be held on Tuesday evenings beginning April 21 and will run from 7:30 to 9:00pm each evening. If you would like to participate in this study, you will need an internet connection and the ability to connect online via Zoom.

Please email Steve Picard at sjpicard526@att.net, with the subject line “SJ bible study RSVP” to let us know you would like to participate.

If you are an SJ Tuesday Night Bible Study veteran who has already participated in this study of Acts of the Apostles, we will use the same commentary (publisher Liturgical Press, author Fr. Dennis Hamm, S.J.) and study guide (by Little Rock Scripture Study). If you already have these materials, there is no charge for you.

If you are new, be advised that this study is not “passive biblical entertainment.” For each session you are expected to read the assigned chapters from Acts of the Apostles, 10-12 pages from Fr. Hamm’s commentary, and prepare assigned questions for conversation from the study guide. This allows your active participation in a robust online conversation each Tuesday.

Cost for materials is \$20. We look forward to hearing from you. “Ignorance of scripture is ignorance of Christ.”



