

April 3, 2020

Dear Friends,

Peace be with you! We all miss seeing each other in person here at St. Timothy Church, but please know that a private Mass is being offered each day for you, and your intentions are remembered at the altar every morning. As we approach Holy Week, Jesus Christ calls us together as a community of faith to love one another and be a source of strength, prayer and hope for each other. While we cannot be present to one another physically, we can be present to each other spiritually.

Praying and Worshipping Together, Virtually

Please join me and fellow parishioners from around Chicagoland in prayer as Cardinal Cupich celebrates Sunday Mass on ABC7 Chicago television at 9:30 a.m. or in Spanish at 10 a.m. on Univision. Both are live-streamed at <https://radiotv.archchicago.org/television/broadcast-masses>. They also are recorded, so they can be viewed on the Archdiocesan Youtube channel throughout the day.

In addition, please join me and your fellow St. Timothy family members in prayer as we broadcast Sunday Mass from our church via our Facebook page: [St. Timothy Catholic Church - Chicago](#) at 11 a.m. on Sunday. This coming Sunday, April 5, is Palm Sunday. Please place a small green branch on the table in front of you, and I will bless it at the beginning of the Mass. After the Mass, place the blessed branch on your door or window to celebrate Palm Sunday. This will help us remember that despite the social distancing we are to practice in the coming weeks, we must still be connected in thought during this Holiest of Weeks. We may be physically isolated, but we are not separated, for we are united in the Body of Christ.

We also can continue meeting our Lord in prayer, in our devotions, such as the Rosary, and in the words of Sacred Scripture. Several organizations have granted access to their materials at no charge during this pandemic. Among them are [Ascension Press](#), [Bishop Robert Baron's Lenten Reflections](#), [LTP Virtual Gatherings and Reflections](#), [Magnificat](#) and [Word on Fire](#), all via the internet.

Staying Connected to Serve You

We're publishing our [bulletin](#) every week on the website, at www.sttimothycho.com.

Please check it out to learn what's happening throughout the Archdiocese, pray for each day's Mass intentions, and see what we're planning once we can all gather again.

Although our church building is temporarily closed, our parish office remains available to assist you. Give us a call at (773) 262-6600 if you need assistance or support during this difficult time. If no one picks up immediately, leave a voicemail message or email st.timparish@ymail.com and your message will be returned.

Our [St. Timothy Church website](#) has a link for the [religious education](#) assignments for all ages. The [St. Timothy Active Youth](#) page has postings related to activities, Bible studies, music and conferences specifically for teenagers. Some of the material is also applicable to adults. We also have a GroupMe community to which you can be added if you ask either Cindy Shaw or Anabel Yuen. Masa posts his weekly reflections both on the STAY page and in the GroupMe community.

Receiving the Sacraments

Have questions about reception of the sacraments during this time? See the current guidelines from the Archdiocese of Chicago as to how all parishes must approach the sacraments at this time on our parish website. Should you have questions, please give us a call.

Your Help is Needed

Many people in our parish and community depend upon your regular, weekly offertory contributions. Material support for the parish is needed now more than ever. We ask you to prayerfully consider maintaining your regular weekly donation level or even increasing it during these times. If you prefer to make an offertory donation via cash or check, you can mail it to our parish office at 6326 N. Washtenaw Ave., Chicago IL 60659, or personally stick it in the mail slot at the bottom of the rectory's front door.

Christ is our Good Shepherd and He will continue to strengthen us. Be assured that I am praying for you and your loved ones daily. Do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or requests for pastoral care. Please watch for another message soon and visit our website or Facebook page for updates.

In our Lord,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, enclosed in a blue oval. The signature appears to read "m. baptista".

Fr. Jose Baptista, S.F.X.
pastor, St. Timothy Church