

April 18, 2020

Dear Friends,

I hope all of you enjoyed a blessed Easter last Sunday, and that you are staying well during these most unsettled days. You continue to be remembered in my Masses and prayers.

One of the hallmarks of Easter is the celebration of the sacraments at Easter and throughout the Easter season. Due to the pandemic, all those celebrations have been postponed. I would ask you to pray for the RCIA/RCIC candidates who were to be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil; our First Communicants who were to receive First Communion the first weekend in May, and our Confirmation candidates scheduled to receive Confirmation on May 14th. All of these candidates have worked for the last two years or last several months to share these sacraments. May we continue to offer these candidates our prayerful support.

I want to offer you some reminders of what is going on in the parish to help keep us together *while we are apart* as a parish community.

- Live-Stream Masses: Please consult our parish website for a listing of these Masses; ***StMaryOurMother.com***. There are also resources available at the diocesan web-site – ***dor.org*** – as well.
- Chapel Visits: The chapel will be open for private prayer Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and on Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon. Remember to practice appropriate social distancing strategies during your visit.
- Sunday and Daily Scripture Readings: Available at uscgb.org/bible/readings,
- Parish Office: The office is closed. If you have a non-emergency need, please call 607-739-3817. This number is checked regularly.
- Emergencies with immediate need: Please call the above number, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.
- Food donations: There continues to be a great need for food for the local food pantries during this pandemic. You may bring your food donations and place them in the food cart in the vestibule.
- Financial Contributions: During this time of crisis, we continue to have bills and financial obligations. If you give via the Sunday collection, many of you mail your contributions to the parish office at 816 West Broad Street, Horseheads, New York 14845. I thank you for your continued financial support. If you visit the chapel, there is a box in the vestibule where you can drop your contribution. This might be a good time for you to enroll in our electronic giving program. Information on this option is available on the parish website.

Please continue to check the parish website for further parish updates.

May you have a grace-filled Easter season! Take care of yourselves and each other!

Father Chris Linsler