



St. Mary's Parish

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Dear Parishioners,

In an effort to slow and mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic Archbishop Smith communicated to us on March 16 that all parishes will be closed to public masses until further notice. As much as possible parish offices will continue to be open to serve the needs of parishioners. As your pastor, I wish to accompany you through this difficult time as much as I can while being conscious of the guidelines provided by Alberta's Chief Medical Officer. I pray that the Lord protects us and particularly those who are vulnerable or care for the sick.

Each week you are invited to contribute in the Sunday Collection and offer the fruits of your labor to our Lord in thanksgiving. In the absence of Sunday mass, our parish will suffer financially. As good stewards, it is important to realize that many of the everyday expenses to run our parish will continue.

I know that these are financially challenging times. You may have lost your job, or your business viability may be threatened. Your savings may have been diminished by market conditions. And I understand that your primary financial responsibility is to your own home and family. I write today to ask that you also remember your spiritual home, our parish. In prayer, I invite you to consider how you can continue to support our parish operations, to the extent possible during this extraordinary time.

In the midst of these unprecedented times, we are blessed to have various ways to continue to support our parish in the absence of the Sunday Offertory. I invite you to review the following methods available to our parish and to pray how you might be able to help.

1. Consider Direct Deposit. Forms are available at the church, the office or email. Provide your email to the office.
2. You can mail your **actual donation envelope**. Seal the envelope properly, put the parish address and a stamp on the reverse side. Cheques made out to St. Mary's Parish.
3. Donation envelopes can also be dropped off at the church. There is a glass jar mounted on the wall by the bathroom. (SE corner) Fold the envelope lengthwise to fit the slot. Any cash donation can also be added. The Church is open M-F from 9:00 am -12:00 Noon.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact your parish.

Please be assured that you are always in my prayers. If there is any way I can be of service, please do not hesitate to call me at the parish office.

In Gratitude,

Fr. Christopher SAC
and Finance Committee

