



Immaculate Heart of Mary
Catholic Church

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Hello. It is my hope and prayer that this letter finds you safe and well. These uncertain times have given us isolation, concerns and fears. Our Lord knows what burdens our hearts and minds. May we experience comfort through our faith and the people our Lord puts in our lives.

We send out prayers for all Essential Employees who have given of their time, risked their health and lives for all of us.

For those who are not aware:

Before we knew of COVID-19 our beloved secretary, who dedicated twenty four years of love and service to our parish, was diagnosed with five cancers. Ann saw the face of God and our Blessed Mother on Mother's Day. Our hearts are broken. She will be missed more than words can express. Please keep her husband Michael and son Sean in your prayers.

Monsignor Billing was in the hospital twice and went through rehab for a heart condition.

I experienced an aneurysm/stroke, which caused me to be away from Immaculate Heart of Mary until March.

Needless to say, we have been discombobulated! Yet through it all, with long hours, love of parish and with the dedication of our volunteers; Deacon Jim Murphey, Holly Keisker and Judy Vonderhaar we have been able to keep our parish running. Kevin Larkin, our maintenance man along with the assistance of dear parishioner, Art Benjamin have been able to make repairs and keep our parish well maintained. Kevin has waxed the pews and floors in church, so when our parish family returns, everything is shiny clean! Thank you to the Nations children who assisted Kevin in removing the Missals and Music Issues from the pews.

Dolores Taylor, Linda Schmitt, Kathy Benwell, Mary DeMierre, Brody Nations, Katie and David Buck labored over our parish grounds and garden area. They have our gratitude for their hard work and compassion for their sore muscles!

A few things that have occurred are; parishioners have been checking in on each other, running errands and providing meals to those in need and sending cards. We are in this together! Thank you!

A phone team and mailing team that helped reach out to every household in our parish directory. Blessing to all of you!!

Our St. Peter and Paul volunteers were not allowed to volunteer in person, yet meals have been delivered twice a month to continue our ministry during the quarantine. Your donations and the donation from Ladies Sodality has made the deliveries of toiletries, clothing and meals possible. Thank you!

I am confident that many other acts of love and charity have occurred; they did not cease! We have been isolated yet Christian actions and the prayers of Immaculate Heart of Mary have not been squelched!

Blessings to all as we continue to navigate through uncharted waters. We have Trust and Confidence that the Holy Spirit is with us every step of the way.

Your safety and health is our utmost concern. We look forward to celebrating Mass and coming together as a parish family.

Sincerely,
Debbie Gartner,
Pastoral Associate 481-9385

Archdiocese Guidelines for Observing Social Distancing and other Health Requirements for the Celebration

We have received the Archdiocese Guidelines for Observing Social Distancing and other Health Requirements for the Celebration of Mass, which are included on our website and on the Archdiocese Website.

If you are sixty or older/medically compromised you are highly encouraged to continue to stay home and stay safe. Archbishop Carlson has extended the dispensation for Sunday Mass indefinitely.

Reconciliation: Saturdays from 3:45-4:15

Mass times will resume: on Monday May 18 at 8:00 a.m. **in the church, not the chapel.**

The weekend Masses will remain the same; Saturday 4:30 p.m. and Sunday 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

"Everyone is obligated to wear a mask or other facial covering. (The only exception is when seated during Mass and when receiving Communion.) Parents should determine when a child is old enough to attend Mass and can abide by the safety guidelines." (Archdiocese Directive)

Please use your own best judgment concerning when you will return to Mass. Do not jeopardize your health.

Do not hesitate to call with any questions. Parish Office hours are Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Deacon Jim Murphey or Debbie Gartner will be available during those times.