

Dear Saint Michael Parishioners,

I hope you continue to do well. Once again, thank you so much for your continued prayer and support of Saint Michael parish and for your creative and original ideas for staying connected to our Catholic faith. Father Schwenka and I are incorporating many of your ideas in our efforts.

Here are the latest developments:

1. A number of you have offered to run errands, pick up groceries, etc. for our elderly and sick parishioners and those who may be quarantined. Wow, how generous of you! If any parishioners have a need in this area, please let me know by calling or texting me at 402-525-2566 or email me at frborowiak@cdolinc.net, and I will pair people in terms of need and ability.
2. Father Schwenka, Deacon Sasse, and I will continue to capture the daily Mass, the Stations of the Cross, the Rosary, and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and post them to our parish Facebook page and parish website. We are continuing to live stream this week's daily Mass at 7:00 A.M. through Saturday, March 21. Next week, March 23-28, we will live stream the Mass at 8:15 A.M. in a desire to help all of our school students stay on routine and schedule. I invite and encourage all of our students and their families—at Saint Michael School, in our C.C.D. program, and homeschool—to join us for daily Mass at this time. Father Schwenka, Deacon Sasse, and I strongly encourage you to use these recorded devotions as a starting point for your prayer time with your family. Since our activities have been curtailed and you have more time at home, this might be an excellent opportunity for you to join with us, your parish priests, and parish community to pray for each other. Perhaps around the evening meal time would be a good time to celebrate one or more these devotions. And also, Mass can be watched at any time.
3. Sunday Mass will be live streamed on our Facebook page on Saturday evening beginning at 5:00 P.M. and Sunday morning beginning at 9:30 A.M. The Masses will also be available on our parish website to be accessed throughout the day.
4. Both Father Schwenka and I will hear confessions Saturday from 4:00-5:00 P.M. and on Sunday from 8:00-9:15 A.M. Ushers will be available to help direct parishioners. I am asking parishioners to please form a line with their cars and come to the curbside in front of the parish. In an effort to keep groups to ten or less, perhaps have an individual or family in a car come up for confession, go to one of the designated confessionals, and when they finish, return to their car, depart and the occupant(s) of the next car pull up and repeat the routine. Father Schwenka and/or I will be there as long as there is a need, so do not worry about schedules. Also, hand sanitizer will be available for penitents at both stations.
5. I have consulted several very committed Catholic doctors regarding the distribution of the Eucharist outside of Mass and outdoors. They all recommended that we do not do it because of the danger of tactile communication and airborne contagion. Archbishop Lucas also asked us not to risk infecting parishioners because of not knowing who might have the virus. In addition, I wish to cooperate with the civil authorities to limit the size of groups. I know how much this pains you, not to be able to attend Mass or to receive the Lord in the Eucharist, because it truly pains me not to be able to celebrate Mass with you. This time of abstaining from the Eucharist can serve to allow our love and desire for Him to grow.
6. Let us know how we can pray for you. We invite you to send in your prayer requests through this link: [Prayer Requests for the Priests](#). The form is private, and your requests will remain confidential. We priests will incorporate your requests in our daily prayer.
7. I truly believe that there will be unforeseen and unknown silver linings in this crisis that will only be known as God's providence continues to unfold before us. Please know of my continued affection for

each and every one of you and how truly edified I am by your longing for the Eucharist, your concern for your fellow parishioners, and all of your offers of help. The Lord will not be outdone in generosity.

8. I also want to remind all of us that we are still in Lent, and this corona virus and all of the disruptions it has caused in our lives and all of the inconveniences might be the subject of a Lenten penance or sacrifice.
9. Also, Spirit Catholic Radio, our Catholic radio station in Lincoln (102.7) offers daily Mass and a wide variety of programs and devotions. You can also access their programming through their app. Check out this week's bulletin for details.
10. Once again, if you have any need whatsoever and/or if Father Schwenka, Deacon Sasse, and I can help you, please feel free to contact us.

With every good wish,



Father Kenneth Borowiak

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my Heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.