

St. Landry Catholic Church

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Sisters and brothers of St. Landry Parish,

The following comes from the Archdiocese of New York: "...when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion, which is a source of grace. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion."

The following is the Spiritual Communion Prayer by St. Alphonsus Liguori:

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 in 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.

Please remember that when mass is celebrated each day at 10:00 each morning, we are united as a community of the faithful. The graces of the sacrament are yours. You are not only remembered before the Father, but with our prayers for each other all the area between us becomes holy ground, that sacred space where God reveals Himself to His beloved people. I am grateful that at least we can still pray together at this time and offer our prayers and sacrifices for one another.

On Palm Sunday, I will bless the palms after the 10:00 mass and we will place them outside the front entrances of the church. Please feel free to come at any time to take what you need. Remember that we should not congregate so I ask that you simply take the palms and bring them home. Thank you for your cooperation. Please remember to always check our website each day for announcements.

I would also like to thank so many of you for your kind and supportive notes and messages. Your donations as faithful stewards are also appreciated. Last week through the new online giving, the mailed contributions and the offerings dropped by the office and rectory we received almost \$5,000.00. Thank you once again for sharing your resources with us during this difficult time.

On Palm Sunday we enter the holiest of seasons of the church's year. It seems impossible that it is so quickly upon us. It seems even more impossible that we are asked to celebrate this holy time physically

apart from one another. This physical separation will not impede the stirrings of the Holy Spirit. God will continue to call us to Himself and urge us to remember what the Son has done so that we might be free. The triumphant entry into Jerusalem, the meal with His disciples, the agony in Gethsemane, the trial and condemnation, the crucifixion and death of Jesus all lead to the fierce brightness of the empty tomb.

This Holy Week we are invited to celebrate and remember in new and challenging ways. These challenges we face do not stop us from allowing His grace to open our hearts to receive His word. The story of Holy Week, the story of Jesus' death and Resurrection is our story. He binds us to Himself to remind us that we are not alone, we are never alone. We are His in this journey from death to life.

Yours in Him,

Msgr. Russell J. Harrington, Pastor