

St. John the Evangelist

Father Ryan McCoy
Pastor

Deacon David Allen
Pastoral Associate

Deacon Rick Conason
Pastoral Associate

Linda Hebert
Lay Pastoral Associate

Mara Russo
Family Life Coordinator

Joshua Faul
Facilities Coordinator

Elizabeth Martin
St. Vincent de Paul

James Smith
Knights of Columbus

Worship Schedule

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM

Sunday Masses:
8:00 AM, 10:30 AM and 5:00 PM

Spanish Mass: 2:00 PM

Weekday Masses:
Mon, Wed, Thu and Fri: 7:00 AM
Tuesday: 6:00 PM

Holy Days:
Vigil Mass: 6:00 PM
Holy Day: 7:00 AM and 12:00 PM

Confession:
Before and after each Mass
and by appointment

XLT Adoration:
Tuesday: 7:00 - 8:00 PM
Confession is available

First Friday Adoration:
7:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Mass, Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament and Benediction

First Saturday Devotion:
8:30 AM - 10:30 AM
Confession, Mass, Exposition
of the Blessed Sacrament, Rosary,
Meditation and Benediction

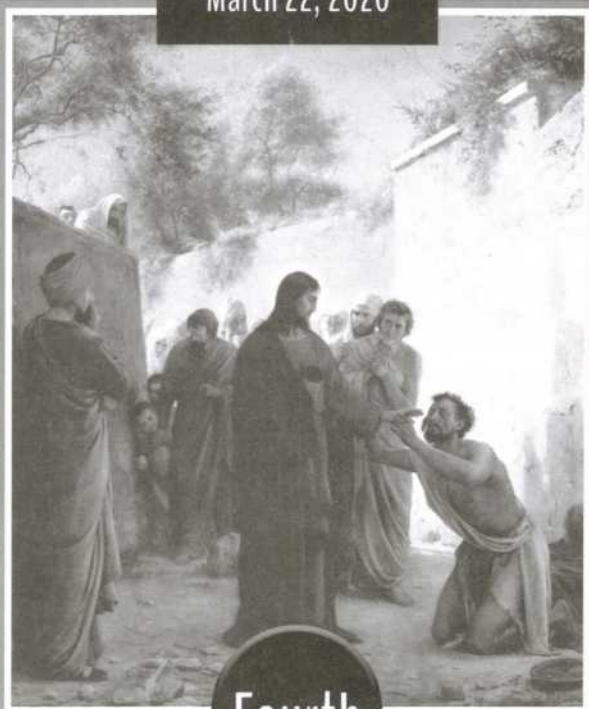
2414 Seventeenth Street, Gulfport, Mississippi 39501

Telephone: 228-864-2272 Fax: 228-864-2273

Email: stjohnthee@stjohngulfport.org

Website: stjohngulfport.org

March 22, 2020



Fourth

Sunday of Lent

Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment,
so that those who do not see might see,
and those who do see might become blind."
John 9:39

Pray
For Peace



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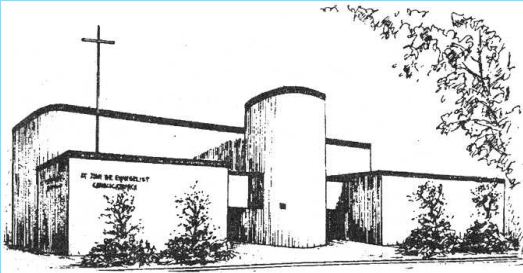
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Welcome to St. John the Evangelist!

Whether you're just visiting for a brief time, looking for a new parish home, returning to the practice of your Catholic faith or interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church, we are happy you're here! To learn more about St. John, please visit stjohngulfport.org.



If you are new to the parish, please complete a registration form on the back table or go to our website and click on the "New Parishioner" tab.

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Cathedral will livestream daily Mass Monday through Saturday at 8:00 AM and on Sunday at 11:00 AM. To view these Masses, visit the Diocese of Biloxi's YouTube Page.

All Catholic schools in South Mississippi will be closed for students through April 17, 2020. Possible additional closings may be required and will be evaluated on a week to week basis. All activities will be cancelled or delayed during the time the school is closed. This includes extracurricular activities and athletics.

Happy birthday wishes are extended to:

Jessie Campbell, Brooke Papania & Mary Repp on Mar 23; Jon Williams on Mar 24; Nancy Vierling on Mar 25; Dayton McDaniel on Mar 26; Linda Bodisch & Rowan Symmes on Mar 27; and Greg Cooper & Callie Sauro on Mar 28.

May God grant them many blessings in the coming year!

St. John the Evangelist,
Pray for us.

In response to Bishop Kihneman's decree regarding the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), ***the following parish activities/ministries have been temporarily suspended:***

All Daily Masses

All Sunday Masses, including Saturday Vigil

All Spanish Masses

All prayer groups that meet on parish property

Couples Date Night

First Holy Communion Class & the reception of First Communion on May 3

Lenten Penance Service

Seder Supper

Stations of the Cross

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Tenebrae Service

Tridium Services

XLT - Adoration

Young at Heart

Youth Ministry

The Lenten Bible Study will continue on-line and Family of Faith will continue with Parent Catechetical materials being mailed to the families.

The Church will be open for Eucharistic Adoration during the following times:

Weekdays

7:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Saturday

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Sunday

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available during these times. Only 10 people should be in the church at any given time. If you plan to attend Eucharistic Adoration, please be mindful of others around you. Use social distancing practices (6 feet apart) while in the church.

During this time, the Parish Office will remain open. However, all appointments will have to be rescheduled as the office building is restricted to staff only.

Your prayers are asked for the following individuals who are facing illness or other life challenges.

Isabel Allen	Skyler Garriga	Alexander Rich
Kris Allen	Alan Goad	Philip Rushing
John Atwood	Dan Goad	Peggy Ryland
David Belew	Ronnie Greer	Skip Ryland
Mary Ann Bishop	Ronnie Guidry	Joan Sample
Dean Bowles	Jessi Hebert	Peg Saxon
Harriett Bowles	Jordan Hoang	Vicki Smith
Suzanne Bowles	Werner Huber	Fran Tomala
Hope Broadus	JoAnn Liner	Charlie Underwood
Garry Cooper	Susie McManus	Erma Wilson
Beverly Crawford	Bernard Papania	Sullivan Wilson
Ed Croal	Linda Papania	John Windham
Mimi Davis	Steve Papania	
Desa Elkins	Colette Marissa	Parishoners of
Angel Garcia	Quigley	St. John the
Hartlee Garriga	Carolyn Reeves	Evangelist

To add or remove a name from the prayer list, please contact the Parish Office. Names will appear on the prayer list for six weeks, but are renewable.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday:	People of the Parish
Sunday:	+Mackie Fayard
	+Alex North
	+Peter Haong Nguyen
Monday:	+Johnny Mabanta
	Mary Repp (Special Intention)
Tuesday:	+Eddy McHugh
Wednesday:	+Marion & Edna Garrett
Thursday:	+Alex North
	+Ruthie McDonald
Friday:	+Leo & Iris Cooper

Notice for Mass Intentions

Fr. Ryan will still be celebrating a private Mass and will be offering the scheduled intentions. We are also reaching out to other priests who will be able to offer their private Masses for our Mass intentions.



Take Out Only

ST. JOHN LENTEN FISH FRY

We will be offering fish dinners on Fridays during Lent from 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM in Presentation Hall. The meal will include fish and hushpuppies, your choice of 2 sides (cole slaw, French fries, green peas or mac & cheese), dessert and a beverage. Adult plates will be \$9 and children plates will be \$5.

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Last Week's Collections

1st Collection: \$4712

2nd Collection: \$833 for the St. John the Evangelist Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society

Children's Collection: \$11

Thank you for your generosity!

This week's second collection is for Catholic Relief Services. Next week's second collection will be for Holy Week/Easter flowers.

Notice for Collections

During these difficult days, it's still important to support your parish. Our families are encouraged to maintain their church contributions by mail, by dropping them off at the Parish Office from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Monday - Friday; by utilizing automatic drafts (contact the Parish Office if you'd like to sign up); or by giving electronically at <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stjohngulfport>. In addition, if you stop by the church for Adoration, we have set up a lock box in the church for accepting your donations. Your support is graciously appreciated.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday:	Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
Thursday:	Ex 32:7-14; Ps 106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47
Friday:	Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday:	Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53
Sunday:	Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11; Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

A message from our Pastor:

John 9:1-7, “As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, ‘Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?’ Jesus answered, ‘Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might be made visible through him. We have to do the works of the one who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.’ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, ‘Go wash in the Pool of Siloam’—which means Sent--. So he went and washed, and came back able to see.”

The Body of Christ has entered a time of purification during this Lent of 2020. God has pulled back the reception of the Eucharist from Catholics. What is God doing? God is trying to create a hunger in our hearts for the Holy Eucharist. We are called to imitate the man born blind; allow God’s son, Jesus, to apply the remedy upon our eyes—being truly sorry for our sins, like taking the Eucharist for granted. Jesus can wash our sins and open our eyes of faith.

As your Pastor, I am asking you to increase your devotions. If you pray an Our Father every day—increase your prayers. If you have not read the Bible—read the Bible. If you pray a Rosary—add an extra Rosary. Bishop Louis Kihneman, III, Bishop of Biloxi, is guiding us through this crisis. I have published his decree.

May Our Lady of Perpetual Help intercede to her son, Jesus, for the end of the spread of the coronavirus and the spiritual healing of humanity. Amen.

Offering your prayers up to God through my daily private Masses, I am praying for you,
Father Ryan McCoy. +JMJ+

Fasting and Abstinence Guidelines

In their Penance and Abstinence pastoral, the U.S. Bishops declared: “the obligation both to fast and to abstain from meat, an obligation observed under a more strict formality by our fathers in the faith, still binds on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. No Catholic Christian will lightly excuse himself from so hallowed an obligation...” They also stated: “we preserve for our diocese the tradition of abstinence from meat on each of the Fridays of Lent, confident that no Catholic Christian will lightly hold himself excused from this penitential practice.”

Fasting: Catholics 18-59 years of age who are in good health are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On all the weekdays of Lent, the U.S. Bishops strongly encourage the faithful to participate in Mass and to observe a self-imposed fast. The law of fasting allows only one full meal a day, but does not prohibit taking some food in the morning and evening. Customarily, the two smaller “collations,” when considered together, should not equal the main meal—and ideally should be eaten only if needed to maintain one’s strength.

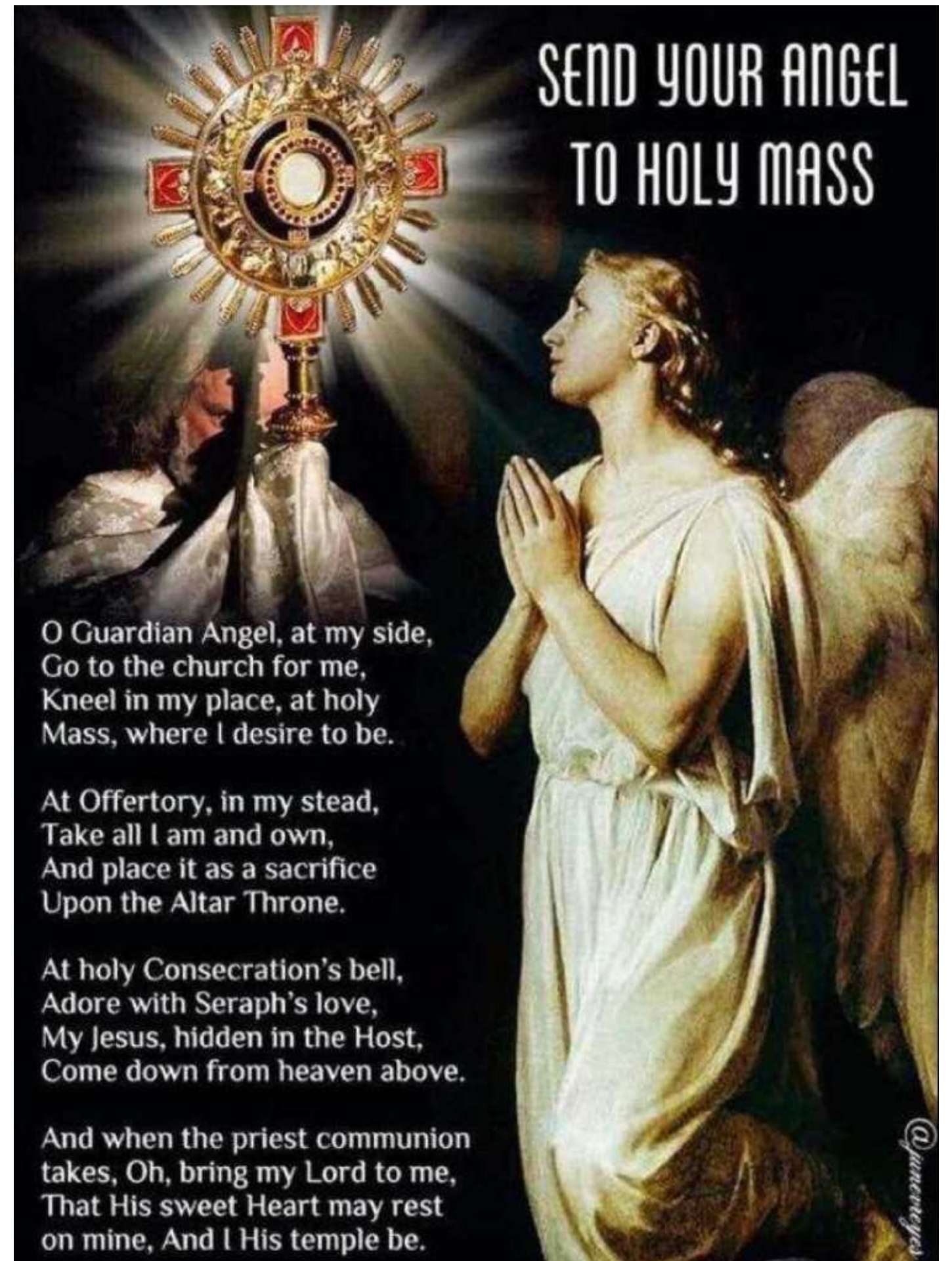
Abstinence: All Catholics 14 years of age and older are obliged to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent, unless the Friday is a solemnity (there are no solemnities in 2020).

2020 Catholic Sharing Appeal

❧ Parish Update ❧

Our parish goal for this year’s Catholic Sharing Appeal is \$34,316. Thus far, 57 families have responded and we have raised \$21,300. Thank you for your response!

If you have not made a pledge or given a one-time gift to the CSA, pledge envelopes can be found in the back of the church, or you can give online at www.biloxidiocese.org.



SEND YOUR ANGEL
TO HOLY MASS

O Guardian Angel, at my side,
Go to the church for me,
Kneel in my place, at holy
Mass, where I desire to be.

At Offertory, in my stead,
Take all I am and own,
And place it as a sacrifice
Upon the Altar Throne.

At holy Consecration's bell,
Adore with Seraph's love,
My Jesus, hidden in the Host,
Come down from heaven above.

And when the priest communion
takes, Oh, bring my Lord to me,
That His sweet Heart may rest
on mine, And I His temple be.

©jmcwings

MOST REVEREND
LOUIS F. KIHNEMAN, III
BISHOP OF BILOXI



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BILOXI, MS 39532-2118
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FAX: 228-702-2139

ADDRESSING THE OUTBREAK OF THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

To the Clergy, Religious, and Lay Faithful of the Diocese of Biloxi:


In the midst of this difficult Lenten journey as we strive to be instruments of God's healing grace in this world, I want to extend the Lord's peace to you. The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak was the occasion for meeting with the diocesan Presbyteral Council today, March 17, 2020. We considered the present circumstances and the urgings and recommendations of civil leaders and medical authorities. Effective tomorrow, March 18, 2020, and for the next thirty days, the Diocese of Biloxi will address the outbreak as follows:

- A dispensation from the obligation to participate in Mass on Sundays/Saturday Vigils is hereby granted to all in the Diocese of Biloxi;
- Public Masses are not to be celebrated;
- Priests may celebrate Masses privately;
- Gatherings for worship, prayer, devotional services, parish events, or meetings are to be rescheduled; virtual meetings are encouraged;
- Only Priests and Deacons, not Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, may bring the Eucharist to those in need, unless the Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion is a family member and the circumstances; greatest prudence should be exercised;
- The Anointing of the Sick should be administered only to those most in need; Priests should take every precaution in their contact with the sick;
- The Sacrament of Penance should be provided for individuals in need, with adequate distance and/or use of a fixed grille; penance services should not be scheduled;
- Insofar as possible, Pastors/Rectors of churches are to provide that churches be unlocked for at least part of each day, especially on weekends; signage in the church should instruct people who may come for prayer to stagger their visits so that no more than ten people are in the church at the same time and they keep appropriate social distancing between them;
- Weddings that cannot be limited to ten or fewer in number will need to be rescheduled;

- Only graveside funerals are permitted at this time; Priests may offer a private Mass for the repose of the soul of the departed person;
- Parishes that have perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament or that schedule a window of time for Adoration are to do so in the largest space available, unless the number of those who come for Adoration is small;
- The faithful are encouraged to pray the Liturgy of the Hours (see the iBreviary app or Laudate app where a Breviary or *Christian Prayer* book is unavailable), the Marian Rosary, and other worthy devotions in their homes;
- Priests are encouraged to use virtual means to assist parishioners in their growth as intentional disciples, in their prayer life, and their connectedness to God and their parish;
- Parish outreach ministries and St. Vincent de Paul conferences are encouraged to continue to offer food assistance, but distribution should be arranged so the distribution team is no larger than ten people, food is picked up or dropped off, and food recipients keep adequate distance from one another and do not congregate in groups larger than ten;
- Lenten fish fries and soup suppers, etc., if scheduled, are to be take-out or delivery, and the number of persons preparing the food, doing cleanup, etc., is not to exceed ten;
- The diocesan Office of Communications will publicize links for live-streamed Masses, supportive videos, and other resources on the diocesan website, www.biloxidiocese.org; and
- The Paschal Triduum should still be celebrated privately in parishes. For special circumstances, please contact the Bishop's office.
- Salaried staff are to continue to be paid; the presence of volunteers in parish offices is discouraged at this time.
- Any member of the clergy who should contract COVID-19 is to notify the Vicar General immediately.

Please be assured of my prayers and a remembrance in my daily private Masses. Let us remember in prayer those who have died, those who are sick, and all who are anxious and hurting at this time.

Given at the Pastoral Center of the Diocese of Biloxi on March 17 A.D. 2020, the Memorial of St. Patrick.


Most Reverend Louis F. Kihneman
Bishop of Biloxi