

St. Michael the Archangel

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Dear Parish Family,

Allow me to write more about this crisis the whole world is facing - the corona virus pandemic. At present we have seen the damage it has inflicted to everyone in the world. Lives are lost, hospitals are filled to capacity, many people are unsure and afraid whether or not they are carrying the virus and so on.

The sad part is that there is no guaranteed cure nor a vaccine yet invented to counter the disease. Many people have lost their jobs, have unpaid bills and don't know when this will end. We are forced to stay at home, wear a mask and to socially distance ourselves from each other so to avoid catching the disease. All of these things weigh heavily upon us and greatly saddens all of us. We are simply not used to this.

But in the midst of all of this negativity, there is some good that we can see. We have certainly slowed down the fast paced and frantic activity of our world, less cars are being driven in the streets bringing gas prices down and there is less pollution around us. Families are spending more time together - eating meals together, playing and having fun together, praying and participating in Mass even if it's only on social media. The togetherness is achieved. And on a personal level, with more free time people are catching up with their devotions and spirituality. Some people are reaching out to old friends, relatives, classmates and even getting to know their neighbors. They have recaptured the feeling that people are more important and that we are all brothers and sisters.

Yes, we are saddened with what's happening but it's not totally bad. We still see so much goodness around us! That's enough reason to smile and be joyful!

Peace!

Fr. Dwight

*If you wish to respond to Father Dwight please e-mail him directly at pastor@smlj.org