

SAINT ROSE OF LIMA CATHOLIC CHURCH'S PARISH PROFILES

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Giving Back

During the COVID-19 pandemic the people of Saint Rose have accelerated the parish's commitment to helping others in need. Here are some of their stories:

In March the Saint Rose visiting ministers were forced to suspend in-person activities at nursing homes, including weekly prayer services, distribution of Communion and visits. However, this group of faithful servants stepped up to meet the challenge as Saint Rose parishioners have done since 1939—going the extra mile to keep in touch with residents in a variety of creative ways.

For many years a team from the parish (currently Erv Stoss, Mary Dietz, Claire Tschida and Pat Hansen) have conducted a weekly Communion service and room-to-room visits at the Rose of Sharon nursing home. For 14 years as part of that ministry Erv made sure the residents received reminders of their faith with items they could display in their rooms, including cards celebrating Lent, Easter, Advent, Christmas and thanksgiving.

Because of the COVID-19 the ministers can no longer enter the building. However, they are still keeping in touch.

“We send cards containing messages saying the parish is praying and thinking about them,” says Mary, coordinator of the parish homebound minister program. “We also give them Bible verses and even include some of Erv’s jokes. We were doing it weekly but as the lockdown continued we had to switch to every two to three weeks.

“At the beginning of Lent we decided to provide crosses for the residents at Rose of Sharon, Eagle Crest and Rose Pointe, and thanks to Erv finding some generous sponsors we were able to purchase 1,000 crosses for the entire congregation.”

“After Easter we gave the residents of Rose of Sharon a rosary provided by Kay Kuhns and the Legion of Mary ministry. Claire made up a bag for the rosaries, a card on how to pray the rosary and a note from the Saint Rose communion service team.”

“We continue to pray for the residents. I know, for example, Pat prays for each one of them every night by name.”

A special thanks to all Saint Rose of Lima visiting ministers for continuing to serve those in need during this time!

