



# *Our Lady of Good Counsel Church*

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March 23, 2020

Dear Family and Friends of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, School, and Pre-School,

Fr. Joseph and I wish to reassure you all that although the church, the school, and our offices have been closed by order of the City and County of Honolulu, Mass will still be celebrated privately on your behalf by us both. We continue to pray for your health and wellbeing and we pray for an end to this epidemic which has so devastated the world. Please be assured that your priests and your Church has not, nor ever will, forget about you during times of crisis.

I would also like to reassure all of those who have been faithfully preparing to receive sacraments during the Easter Season that you will still be able to receive the sacraments, but it will be postponed to another time when we can be sure that all will be safe.

Unfortunately, I must remind everyone that all Masses have been cancelled and all activity has been suspended until further notice. The Holy Week Masses and Easter Sunday Mass will be celebrated, privately, by your Pastor and Parochial Vicar. No one is allowed on church property during this quarantine period. Please do not come, even to pray outside of the church, as this may draw the attention of our friendly neighborhood police officers.

You may follow Bishop Larry's Masses on Sunday during the live streams from the Cathedral Basilica. You can find a link to the live streams and other resources on our website at: <https://olgchurch.org>. Updates are being posted there on a regular basis.

While you visit our website, may I humbly ask that you utilize our Online Giving program? Although services and Masses have been discontinued for the time being, it is only temporary. In the meantime, our church and school must continue to pay our bills. If you do not have access to a computer, please mail your normal donations to the church office. Please know that your Pastor will still be doing administrative work.

I know that this is a freighting time for everyone. I share your frustration and understand the fear that uncertainty brings. Know that I continue to pray for you all and I have faith that, through our Lord's grace, we will all come together once again to worship in love and joy.

Until then, I bid you peace and the blessings of our Lord, Jesus Christ. May Our Lady of Good Counsel intercede for us all.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Santhosh Thottankara,  
Pastor