



HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Dear Brothers and Sisters of Holy Trinity Parish,



It has been a week since public Masses were suspended in our Archdiocese and across our country. We understand the charity and prudence that motivated that decision. Yet our hearts are heavy - filled with deep longing for the Lord in His Eucharistic presence. Perhaps there is also sadness and discouragement in our hearts. We are looking for directions and strength for this time of crisis. Where can we find it? I would like to share with you some thoughts that were born in my heart when I was praying in front of the tabernacle in what has become, during these days, our almost empty church.

These are the words of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew: *"Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast."* (Matthew 9:15) Indeed, with the public Masses suspended the Most Holy Sacrifice of Jesus Christ was taken away from us. That reminds us about Good Friday and Holy Saturday when the Holy Mass is not celebrated. On these solemn days, we are called to venerate the Cross, reflect upon the Passion of Christ, and do penance for our sins and the sins of the whole world. It looks like Good Friday will be very long this year. The Bridegroom of our souls was taken away, and we are called to do penance asking fervently for Divine mercy and protection.

My Dear Brothers and Sisters, we have to take very seriously Jesus' call to conversion and repentance that resounds throughout Lent, especially this Lent. It is a call to prayer, works of mercy and fasting.

Deepen your prayer life. Do not let the rosary leave your hands. Unite your hearts with the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus through the meditation upon the Passion of Christ. We have to be confident in the words of Jesus who said: *"Ask and it will be given to you. Seek and you will find. Knock and the door will be open to you."*

Be merciful to one another. It is so easy to become bitter and angry when we follow tragic news or see empty shelves in our stores. Remember especially about the elderly, handicapped and ill who may have nobody to talk to or do grocery shopping for them. Be patient and kind. Remember the words of Jesus who said that *there is more joy in giving than receiving*.

Embrace fasting, mortification and self-denial. That's the weapon presented to us by Jesus against the evil one, who does everything possible to poison our hearts with discouragement, helplessness, fear and hatred. Now is the time when the generosity of Divine mercy is waiting for the generosity of our penance.

Our Adoration Chapel has been temporally closed due to the small size of it and the shortage of committed adorers. Nevertheless, our church is available to anybody who would like to come for adoration or even short visit to the Blessed Sacrament. It is true that our eyes cannot see the Blessed Sacrament that is reserved in the tabernacle; however, the same Jesus is waiting for us there in His sacramental presence that brings healing and consolation. There are only very few parishioners praying in the church throughout the day so everybody can keep a safe distance from other people. Our church is open Monday to Friday from 6AM to 8:30PM; Saturday and Sunday from 7AM to 8:30PM. Confessions are available at the usual time that means Tuesday to Saturday at 7AM and Saturday at 3:30PM.

Our parish is also working to broadcast Masses from our church. That may take some time. For now, please use available channels like EWTN.

My Dear Brothers and Sisters, I believe that it is very difficult for you to be deprived of the Holy Mass and Communion. It is similarly very difficult to me to celebrate Mass being hidden from you. Be assured of my prayers for you daily. You and your intentions are present in my heart always when I celebrate my private Mass. May this time of trial strengthen our faith that every cross embraced with love and carried with perseverance leads to the glory of resurrection.

With prayer and blessing,

Fr. Piotr Mozdyniewicz