

"I pray that your partnership with us in the faith may be effective in deepening your understanding of every good thing we share for the sake of Christ". *Philemon 1:6*

As we are all aware, the global spread of the coronavirus has become a crucial topic of discussion and concern for many of us. While this threat has impacted the life people across the world, we cannot allow it to change *who we are*. Let us continue to be witnesses of hope, encouragement, generosity, patience and prayer. This is who we are at St Al's.

Even though the Masses have been suspended throughout the Archdiocese of Milwaukee (*please read Archbishop's letter in the bulletin*) from Wednesday, March 18 through Friday, April 03, we will not despair. We are all facing a "very real" Lent. This is not a time to panic but to support one another, offer encouragement and to quell each other's fears. During our time at home, let's take time to sit quietly with God, to meditate and pray; that we may hear His voice, accept His peace and live closer to Him and one another in Spirit.

**As of Monday, March 16, the following changes have been made for St Alphonsus Congregation:**

**Masses** have been suspended from Wednesday, March 18 through Friday, April 03.

**Schools** have been closed from Monday, March 16 through Friday, April 03.

**Christian Formation Classes** have been canceled from Sunday, March 15 through Friday, April 03.

**Fish Fry** has been canceled for the rest of the season.

**Stations of the Cross** have been canceled for the rest of the lent.

**Adoration** continues as scheduled at **4:30 pm on Thursdays in the CHURCH.**

**Committees and small Groups** – planned, however, please use your own judgement and contact the parish office to get the direction based on the Government and Church guidance.

The parish office will remain open as scheduled. The staff at St. Al's is committed to meet needs of our parishioners.

It goes without saying, that the coronavirus epidemic has had a negative impact financially our parish. As mass attendance has been affected, contributions have significantly dropped. St. Al's is dependent on your financial support to effectively operate on a day to day basis. We appreciate and encourage you to continue to financially support St. Al's during this time. Please feel free to contact the parish office if you have any questions and concerns.

St. Corona, pray for us!

*(St. Corona is considered as one of the patron saints of pandemics. Saint Corona is especially venerated in Austria and Bavaria as the Patron Saint against epidemics. Her feast day is May 14).*

Fr Britto Suresh