

**St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church**  
415 NE 105<sup>th</sup> Street, Miami Shores, FL 33138

My Dear Friends,

Recently, Pope Francis' historic pilgrimage on foot through the empty streets of Rome visiting various churches inspired people across the globe. Let us follow his remarkable example by praying for those who have been infected by COVID-19, those who are at risk or anxious, those seeking a cure, those in the health care profession, and all who are responsible for managing our response to safety. Through prayer and fasting, we develop a passion for God that supersedes everything else.

Following the advice of local and state authorities, the Archdiocese of Miami has ordered the temporary suspension of all public liturgies, including the Holy Mass, and all churches are closed until further notice. We understand how difficult it is as Catholics to be without the Holy Mass and Eucharist; however, we must be responsible stewards in slowing the spread of this atrocious disease.

While public Masses are temporarily suspended at St. Rose of Lima, our priests will be celebrating Masses privately, during which they will pray for all of your intentions. Beginning Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, you may visit our church [website](#) and click on the [Facebook Live](#) link to join us for a live stream of our Holy Mass. Masses will be held Monday-Saturday at 9am and Sundays 9am (English) and 11am (Spanish). We are pleased to still receive any specific prayer requests for our Eucharistic celebrations.

At this time, our Parish Office will remain open during normal business hours, Monday-Friday from 8am-4:30pm. Please call our Parish Office at 305-758-0539 to arrange for confessions, funeral needs, baptisms and pastoral care (including visits to the sick and homebound). Our regular confession times will remain the same but held in the kiosk. The Sunday bulletin will be available online and sent via email to all who have provided a working email address to our office. Please visit our [website](#) to sign up for the bulletin.

Similar to every other parish, St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church counts on the support and generosity of its parishioners to sustain and strengthen our mission. Although we cannot come together physically, we ask that you please continue supporting our parish by making weekly contributions via our convenient and safe online [Parish Soft](#) program, mail, visit our parish office, or participate in our text to "Give" 305-745-7781. We thank you in advance for your charity and generosity.

Rather than reacting with fear and anxiety to this uncontrollable change in our daily lives, please join me and your fellow parishioners as we remain united in prayer and the Holy Eucharist and continue our journey through this season of Lent. While at home, take advantage of the rarity of having extra time together as a family; I encourage you to pray, read the Bible, watch Mass on TV, visit [FORMED.org](#) for our free subscription to limitless Catholic resources, and connect with others who may also be in need of spiritual support and comfort.

Rest assured that our priests are praying for you and your families. We understand you are experiencing great uncertainty regarding your health and finances, not only for yourselves, but for your loved ones, neighbors, friends and fellow parishioners. It is important that we all walk this path together with Our Lord. Rather than yielding to fear, let us place our faith in God. As Psalm 91 states, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God in whom I trust."

I look forward to the end of this crisis and to seeing you all again at St. Rose of Lima.

Stay safe and may God bless you all.

Yours in Christ,

Father George