

St. Katharine Drexel – Chester, PA
March 18, 2020

Coronavirus / COVID-19 Schedule

Dear parishioners and friends of St. Katharine Drexel:

In this time of trial and anxiety please know of my prayers for you and your well being and my gratitude for your prayers and generosity toward one another. As the situation unfolds please help spread the word amongst yourselves when updated parish information is posted to the website and/or official social media outlets.

In accordance with [Archdiocesan directives](#) as well as CDC guidelines here is our revised schedule and resources designed to provide for the spiritual well-being of our parishioners as well as contribute in charity and justice to efforts to combat the spread of the Coronavirus. Until further notice...

- The office is closed to in-person visits. As a staff we remain attentive to your needs during normal hours and after-hours emergencies. Please contact us by phone or email.
- All public Masses have been cancelled. Mass will still be celebrated privately on (or as close to as possible) the dates requested in the parish Mass book.
- In this time of fear and anxiety and uncertainty we are still encouraged to facilitate private prayer and an encounter with the Word of God. To that end, in addition to providing links to online resources for spiritual enrichment, St. Katharine Drexel Church will be open for prayer, including Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament at the following times:

Monday – Saturday: 8am-10am with benediction at 10am.

Sunday: 9am-11am with benediction at 11am.

Confession will be offered:

8-9am on Monday, Wednesday & Friday

10-11am on Sundays

In order to keep the church open, we ask that all guests be exceedingly mindful of everyone's health and safety: staying home if you are sick, using proper hygiene (hand sanitizer available at the entrances), and allowing at least six feet of space to others.

- For private prayer at other times during the day please feel free to visit our sister parish St. John Chrysostom in Wallingford. As of 5pm 3/17/2020 the church is open for private

prayer from 9am-4pm on weekdays and 9am-noon on Sundays. See their website <http://www.sjcparish.org/> for the latest information.

What can I do in the meantime?

- Pray! Please pray for our parishioners, especially those whose health or economic well-being is imperiled during this time of strain. We have many hourly workers without pay as well as many elderly or infirmed parishioners at elevated risk already.
- If you are able please consider donating food to our food pantry (stkatharinedrexelpantry.org for the latest details and contact information there) or contributing to our poor box funds (gofundme.com/skd-covid-fund or paypal.me/skdchester or via parish giving by clicking the link on our [parish website](#)) so that we have the flexibility as a parish to give material and financial assistance to our most vulnerable members and neighbors.
- Stay spiritually connected from home:
 - Visit the [Archdiocese of Philadelphia Covid-19](#) resources including Sunday Mass streamed from the Cathedral with Archbishop Perez. <http://archphila.org/covid19/>
 - Daily Mass streamed by Bishop Robert Barron from Word on Fire: <https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/>
 - Reflect on the daily Mass readings – including audio options and audio/video reflections – provided by the USCCB: <http://www.usccb.org/bible/>
 - Utilize Magnificat Online for free during the Covid-19 crisis – visit <https://us.magnificat.net/free>

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,

~Fr. Tom

Fr. Thomas Whittingham
Pastor, St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Church