



Dear Sisters and Brothers –

My focus this week has been on assessing COVID-19 updates and directives from civic and religious leaders. As I have digested and prayed about the flood of information, I have continued to hold you in my heart.

A directive has come from the Archdiocese that we are not to cancel Sunday or daily Masses on account of COVID-19, at least at this point. Therefore, we will celebrate our March Home4Dinner Mass at 10:00 a.m. this Sunday. Please know that this was not my original decision, in light of Governor Newsom's directive that all gatherings of more than 250 people be canceled. Because of my grave concerns for your health and that of our faith community, and of the Common Good, I strongly believe it would be unwise and unsafe to gather for Eucharist.

The directives from the Archdiocese also say that the Sunday obligation to attend Mass is suspended for those who are ill, those who are in high risk groups, and those who feel anxiety from fear of contracting the virus. I would also add that, as I said in my [March 11 update](#), you may choose not to attend as an act of charity, out of concern that you might unknowingly be infected and do not want to transmit the virus.

To be honest, that does not go far enough for me. Neither does it respect what my conscience is telling me, which is, now, to ask you not to come to Mass because the risk of being infected or infecting another is too high. **Therefore, please do not come to Mass at St. Ignatius Church this Sunday.**

Practically speaking, what does this mean for our community for this Sunday, March 15?

1. The doors will be open, and Mass will be celebrated; I will be assisted by just a few members of the staff.
2. Cameras will livestream Mass in its entirety, starting at about 9:55 a.m. [Click here for the livestream link](#), or look for the "Mass Livestream" tab on the [parish website](#).
3. At the time when you would ordinarily receive Communion, you will be encouraged to make an act of spiritual Communion, asking for Jesus to enter deeply into your heart.
4. There will not be a snack bag collection for the St. Ignatius/St. Agnes Food Pantry.
5. On an average Sunday, the collection contributes about \$6,700 towards our parish operating fund. I hope you will understand the impact of this crisis and [make a gift online](#) in lieu of your usual Sunday offering.

These are difficult times, and everything is moving quickly, changing even by the hour. We will continue to review and assess the data as it comes in, and we will communicate to you all decisions we make. For questions, please look to the [parish website](#) or call the parish office at (415) 422-2188. My phone number is (415) 422-6398.

Be assured of my fervent prayers for you. Please keep your fellow parishioners and the staff in yours.

With affection,

Fr. Greg Bonfiglio, S.J.
Pastor

St. Ignatius Parishioners, please be advised that, as of this evening (Friday, March 13), the following parish events and ministries - along with those of our partners - have been cancelled, postponed, or taken to an online gathering:

CANCELLED: OWLS History of the Church Series - March 20 & 27 and April 3

CANCELLED: Lenten Retreat - March 23, 24 & 25

CANCELLED: Magis Meal - March 17

CANCELLED: Ignatian Wellness | Ignatian Yoga Classes - March 15 & 29

MOVED ONLINE: Laudato si' Circle - March 22 (Zoom Conference info to follow)

The plan for Children's Faith Formation classes is being communicated directly to CFF families.

CANCELLED: Advocacy Committee documentary screening - *Silicon Valley's Online Slave Trade* - March 17

CANCELLED: USF Lane Center for Catholic Social Thought - *Flannery* screening & discussion - March 26

Thank you, and as always, please contact the parish office with any questions or follow up.

