



March 13, 2020

Dear Friend of Carmel Mission,

In light of current increasing concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic around the world and in the United States, we are taking steps to ensure the health and safety of our parish family and our visitors. Since my last correspondence, new developments in the spread of the virus and subsequent directives from Bishop Garcia and the Diocese have caused us to broaden our safety measures.

We will be continuing to offer all scheduled masses and the Mission remains open to welcome all our visitors and pilgrims at this time.

All prayer opportunities other than the celebration of mass are suspended, including the Recitation of the Rosary, Taize Prayer and the Stations of the Cross.

As noted before, we are going to suspend all activities in Crespi Hall, including Sunday Coffee and Doughnuts, and the Knights of Columbus St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Saturday March 14 is cancelled.

We will be practicing social distancing at our weekend mass celebrations, offering covered seating outside in our courtyard with sound and distribution of the Eucharist for anyone who would like to attend mass but prefers to remain outdoors, weather conditions permitting.

Bishop Garcia has granted a dispensation to all over the age of 60 and anyone who fears that attending mass would not be in the best interest of their health. We are working on live stream options for those who are not able to attend our mass in person.

We continue to closely monitor new developments regarding COVID-19. The health and safety of our parishioners and pilgrims is of the utmost importance to us. We will keep you informed of further actions that may become necessary to safeguard our community. Please visit our website, carmelmission.org, for the most up to date information.

We ask for your continued prayers for all those affected by COVID -19 and those medical professionals who are caring for them, as well as for all who are fearful in this turbulent time.

May our loving God continue to bless, protect, guide, and heal us. Wishing you and your family peace and good health,

Fr. Paul