

March 28, 2020

Dear Parishioners of Seton Lake Ridge,

The clergy and parish staff want all of you to know that we have been praying for you and that **we miss you dearly!** Fr. Dort and I have been overwhelmed by the promise of your prayers and generous offers to help in any way possible. For that we are deeply, deeply grateful! I only wish I could respond to all of the many emails I have received. Please know that I read each and every one of them as I am so heartened by your thoughtfulness and kind word of encouragement and support.

This past week, it has come to my attention that some family members of parishioners (who reside elsewhere) have become ill with the coronavirus. We are all joined together in prayer for them and all who are suffering or have succumbed to this horrific disease, as well as the comfort and consolation of their family and friends. *May Jesus, our Divine Physician guide us and quickly deliver us from this present affliction!*

SEMINARIANS ASSIGNED TO PARISH

We have been blessed as a parish by Bishop Burbidge to host two of our diocesan seminarians, **Robert Renner** (2nd Year Theology at Mount St. Mary's, in Emmitsburg, Maryland, who was also assigned to us last summer), and **Andrew D'Andrea** (1st Year College at St. John Paul the Great Seminary in Washington, D.C.). They will be with us in the foreseeable future as they finish their academic studies online and avail themselves with us here in the rectory to prayer and daily Mass. They have been instrumental in assisting us in exploring new modes of interacting with all of you that I am so pleased to announce here.

"LIVE-STREAMING" PARISH MASSES & ADORATION/EVENING PRAYER

Beginning tomorrow, **Sunday March 29th** (Fifth Sunday of Lent) we will begin to stream via the internet the **9:00 a.m.** and **10:45 a.m. SUNDAY MASSES** "live" from the Rectory Chapel.

Beginning this **Monday, March 30th** we will also "live-stream" the **9:00 a.m. Daily Mass** (Monday-Saturday) as well as weekday **Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration** beginning at **4:30 p.m.** followed by **Evening Prayer and Benediction** concluding at **5:45 p.m.** (Monday-Friday).

To link to these "live-streams", simply go to our parish web-site, www.setonlakeridge.org (from a computer, smart phone, or tablet) and click on the link to the Mass or service listed.

HOLY WEEK TO BE “LIVE-STREAMED” FROM RECTORY CHAPEL

In light of the present circumstances, Bishop Burbidge has directed us to continue the current diocesan policy not to hold public Masses during Holy Week. However, I am so pleased to say that we will be live-streaming these liturgies from our Rectory Chapel. Schedule will be forthcoming.

DO YOU NEED HELP?

I am so pleased to announce that our **Human Concerns Ministry** has begun to coordinate volunteers who are able and willing to shop for groceries and pharmacy items for other parishioners who are unable because they are in a high-risk category.

For those who are in financial hardship and are in need of non-perishable food items and/or toiletries, our **MOTHER SETON FOOD PANTRY** is well stocked. Although the Parish Office is currently CLOSED, the Food Pantry will remain OPEN for parishioners and non-parishioners and you can visit the pantry, without an appointment, from 12:30-2:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Simply come to the reception area of the Parish Office and ring the bell for assistance. *NOTE: At this time, children will not be permitted into the pantry.*

If you are in need of food but are in a high risk group, volunteers can make up “to go” bags based on your needs, which can be picked up at the parish office or can be delivered, if you are unable or do not feel comfortable coming to the Parish Office. For more information, please contact **Betty Maher**, Human Concerns Outreach Coordinator, at b.maher@setonlakeridge.org or **703-494-4008, ext. 145** and leave a message.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

If you are healthy and available to **shop for our parishioners in need**, or make **Food Pantry deliveries**, please consider being a part of our network of volunteers to assist those in need. Simply contact Betty Maher for more information.

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PARISH BLOOD DRIVE BIG SUCCESS!

On Saturday, March 14th, the day before we held our last public Sunday Masses, our St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus Council 8183 hosted our annual Blood Drive. It was an overwhelming success with 56 blood products being donated and collected. With everything being canceled due to the Coronavirus, it was great to see how so many Knights and parishioners responded to this event. A special note of thanks to **Paul Zerkow**, our Parish Grand Knight, to **Tom Stanton** who coordinated the event, to those who assisted, **Les Krogh, John Ryan, Clyde Watts** and **Charlie O’Malley** as well as to all those who “*Gave the Gift of Life*”. You make your parish family proud!

As you might be aware, there is an ongoing critical need for blood donations due to the Coronavirus outbreak. Click here to find out how to individually schedule an appointment with the **American Red Cross** to [donate blood](#)

OFFICE IS CLOSED, BUT CHURCH REMAINS OPEN & CONFESSIONS STILL BEING OFFERED

The Church remains open Sunday-Saturday 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. All are welcome to come for private prayer, to make individual Stations of the Cross, etc. keeping in mind “social distancing” and in groups of 10 or fewer. Confessions continue to be offered during the normal posted times and “social distancing” is to be maintained. To facilitate this, Fr. Dort is utilizing the “Cry Room” and I am using the “Old Sound Room”, near the “Our Lady of Guadalupe Image” and Votive candles. While the Office is CLOSED, the reception area to the Office will be open should you need to drop anything off. Simply utilize the mail-slot on the inside office door in the reception waiting area.

PLEASE STAY CONNECTED!

We are still publishing our weekly bulletin in reduced numbers. These hard copies are located in the Church Narthex. We also encourage you to sign-up to receive the bulletin each week via email or by visiting our parish website. Click the links below:

[Subscribe to Seton Lake Ridge Church Bulletin](#)

[View Seton Lake Ridge Church Bulletin](#)

[Get our parish App](#)

I also want to stay in touch with you by reaching out several times a week either by parish website postings, emails, texts or even a brief phone message. **This is only possible if we have current email addresses and cell phone numbers.** Please contact Violet LaVille at v.laville@setonlakeridge.org to provide or update this information. If you are aware of someone who is unable to receive these electronic communications, please pass this information along to them in any manner that you are able. Anyone can also visit our own web-site www.setonlakeridge.org for the most up to date notices, and the Diocese of Arlington web-site www.arlingtondiocese.org for additional information and latest press releases.

Finally, I offer this daily Prayer to Jesus for Healing and Guidance in the midst of this difficult situation!

May God bless and protect us all!
Fr. Brian Bashista
Pastor

PRAYER TO JESUS FOR HEALING AND GUIDANCE

Jesus, Son of God
you were sent by the Father
to bear our weakness;
be with us in this time of crisis.

Merciful Savior,
heal and comfort the sick,
so that, with health restored,
they may give you praise.

Divine Physician,
accompany our caregivers
so that, serving with patience,
they may heal wisely.

Eternal Wisdom,
guide our leaders
so that, seeking remedies,
they may follow your light.

Christ, the Anointed,
protect us in body and spirit,
so that, freed from harm,
we may be delivered from all affliction.

Who live and reign with God the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.

Amen.