

Dear Parishioners,

In his recent decree **Bishop Crosby** has **suspended** until further notice **all** publicly celebrated Masses, liturgies and other parish gatherings – **effective immediately**. As the Bishop of our Diocese, he granted **dispensation** to the faithful from the obligation to participate in the Sunday Mass, “until we are again able to assemble for the Lord’s Day, in accord with the directives of health authorities”.

Suspended are both Sunday and weekday masses, Lenten devotions, retreats, missions and other public celebrations of sacraments, including the sacrament of reconciliation. Cancelled are also all parish gatherings and events, including parish group and organization meetings.

Funeral Masses and receptions in Parishes are **not permitted** at this time. The Rite of Committal may be celebrated at the cemetery with immediate family members present. A Funeral mass may be celebrated **at a later date**.

(Scheduled) **Wedding** and **baptisms** are permitted with immediate family members present only.

Priests throughout the Diocese **will continue to minister sacramentally to the elderly, the sick and the dying**. This, however, might be limited or even prohibited by particular hospitals or other institutions where the person requesting the sacraments is residing.

The priests of our Diocese **are allowed to celebrate the Eucharist privately**, i.e. by themselves, which will be the case for Fr. Lech and myself here at Sacred Heart. **Each of the weekday and Sunday private Masses celebrated by us will be offered for the intentions requested by our parishioners according to the schedule presented in the bulletin**. We invite you to unite with us in prayer from your home on that day and to make a spiritual Communion. **On Sundays I will also be celebrating a Pro Populo Mass for the intentions of our parishioners – for God’s blessing and Mary’s protection**.

All of the above directives are in place until further notice.

Should anything change in our Diocese or Parish we will inform you immediately.

*Invoking the omnipotent assistance of our Merciful God, Three in One,
the mighty intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, our Mother,
and of the patron saints of Canada and Poland,*

*I heartily impart my priestly blessing to you and your loved ones, and unity myself in prayer
with all who struggle physically and spiritually in these challenging times,*

Fr. Stanislaw Zaryczny, C.R., P.P

/Pastor/