

St Raymond De Penafort

"Welcome. Love. Serve."

301 S. I-Oka Avenue
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056
(847) 253-8600
www.st-raymond.org

March 13, 2020

Dear St. Raymond Family,

We have been following the rapidly evolving situation with COVID-19 and the safety of our parish and surrounding community is of the utmost importance here at St. Raymond. We recognize that there is legitimate concern for the safety of all human life. We hope that the following information will offer you reassurance that we are doing our part to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

From the Archdiocese of Chicago:

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Based on the current guidelines from local public health departments, which recommend the cancellation of public gatherings involving 250 or more people, Cardinal Cupich mandated the suspension until further notice of all liturgical services effective Saturday evening with the regularly scheduled weekend services. In addition, he has mandated the closing of schools operated by the archdiocese until further notice.

"This was not a decision I made lightly," said Cardinal Cupich. "The Eucharist is the source and summit of our life as Catholics. And our schools and agencies provide essential services to many thousands across Cook and Lake Counties. But, in consultation with leaders from across the archdiocese, for the sake of the safety of our students, parishioners, and all the women and men who serve the people of the archdiocese, it is clear that we must take the better part of caution in order to slow the spread of this pandemic."

Given this information from the Archdiocese of Chicago, the following information outlines the protocols being instituted for our parish and campus.

Parish Ministry Center (PMC)

The PMC office will be open to handle phone calls **(847-253-8600)** during these uncertain times. The staff wants to assure you that we are here to answer any questions or concerns. The PMC will have limited hours beginning this weekend.

Monday – Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Our staff will still have access to both emails and voicemails to help you in any way that we can during this period. Please continue to reach out as needed.

St Raymond De Penafort

"Welcome. Love. Serve."

301 S. I-Oka Avenue
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056
(847) 253-8600
www.st-raymond.org

Parish Masses and Prayer Chapel

Masses and regular weekly sacramental schedule are suspended effective immediately, including confession and Stations of the Cross, until further notice. Funerals will be permitted as needed with limited attendance, please contact the office directly for further assistance.

St. Raymond will offer a live stream (on-line) Mass 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 15. Please check our website www.st-raymond.org for information on accessing the live stream.

The Prayer Chapel will remain open as requested by the Archdiocese of Chicago for individual private prayer with the following hours:

Monday: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
Tuesday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Saturday: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Sunday: 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The maintenance staff will continue to perform routine cleaning with a heightened focus on disinfecting all common use areas.

Campus Events, Classes, and Meetings

The entire St. Raymond campus is closed until further notice. All meetings, classes (including Religious Education), and events that were scheduled over the next two weeks are officially canceled effective Friday, March 13, 2020. We will update this as needed prior to April 1, 2020.

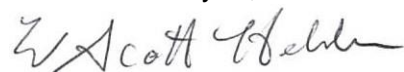
School

The decision to temporarily close our schools, **beginning Monday, March 16**, applies to all Catholic schools that are operated by the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Mary Eileen Ward, school principal, and I will continue to monitor the situation and work in conjunction with the Archdiocese of Chicago to share updates during these next few weeks. We thank you for your patience and understanding as this situation continues to unfold.

My prayers are with each of you and your families. As we enter into this period of uncertainty, may we continue to offer each other compassion and grace over the next several weeks.

Peace be with you,



Fr. Scott Hebden, Pastor