

Church of St. John the Baptist  
PO Box 68  
Swanville, MN 56382  
Fr. Ron Dockendorf, Pastor



**Parish Office** (320) 547-2920  
**Kitchen** 547-2225  
**Grey Eagle -Office** (320) 285-2545  
**Fr. Ron** 547-2920 or cell (320) 290-4902  
**Confessions:** Sat.Night 6:30 - 7:00 p.m.

April 19, 2020 – 2<sup>ND</sup> Sunday of Easter  
Sunday of Devine Mercy

**UPDATE ON CHURCH CLOSING:**

Due to the Coronavirus, Bishop Kettler has decided to extend the date for churches to be CLOSED. Until after Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. He stresses that we should go out only when necessary, not only for our protection but for the protection of others.

**First Communion and Confirmation has been cancelled at this time. We will be notified when they will take place.**

If you want to go to confession, please call Fr. Ron at 320-290-4902 to make arrangements..

**For Mass on T.V. there are several options:**  
Mass is also offered on EWTN, Dish 261, and Direct T.V. 370.

Our diocese has Mass on KSTC-45 at 11:00 Sunday

Even though we cannot attend Mass at this time, Fr. Ron continues to have Mass during the week and of course on the weekends. Some may be video taped for us to watch on facebook. He is offering up these Masses for the people of both parishes as well as other intentions.

Be sure to go to facebook to see how beautiful the church looks. What a terrific job the gals did to decorate. Thanks to Melinda for all the video taping she has been doing for our Masses, showing the decorated church, etc. etc.

Next week I will list those who donated for the lovely lilies in memory or honor of their loved ones. If we are lucky, they will still be good to view when we can once again join together in church. God Bless !

Please continue to pray for others...many are in a much worse situation than most of us. In fact you may be one of those we are praying for.

**The Bishop's Annual Appeal:**

May God bless you and those you love. Diocesan ministries are here for YOU ! Our diocesan website has updates, spiritual resources and prayers at [www.stcdio.org](http://www.stcdio.org). We are the church together.

We hope you continue to donate to your church weekly and bring your donations in when we are able to enjoy Mass together again. God Bless !!!

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES AT THIS TIME. Marge will get in touch with those who will have first Communion and those who need work done before they can be confirmed when those dates are set

**I have a book that has questions and Pope Francis answers them. This is one:**

Do you know, Ryan, that God listen to us? Yes, he listens to us, but not with ears. God can hear us even if words don't come out of our mouths. God listens to the heart. Jesus also said this: When we pray, we don't have to say many things, we don't have to have long discussions with God. They aren't needed. What we need to do, however, is to really open our hearts to Him. We must open our hearts just as they are. Then God can listen to what we have in our hearts. And Jesus and the Holy Spirit, because they are God, are near to every person and listens to everyone. They are God, and they can do this.

**A good message during this time of the virus:**

Look around you...the world is constantly grappling with crisis and war. People are weary from the dysfunction of their own lives. The chaos is crying out for order. The complexity is crying out for simplicity. At every level in society, from the beggar on the street to the leader of nations we are all looking for something to solve the crisis of our lives and of our times. It is time to stop looking for something and start looking **to someone – Jesus of Nazareth !!**

**Thank you** to Marge and the confirmation students for cleaning up the leaves in the flower gardens, etc.

Usually we can find some good even in the bad. Some people have said it has been too long of a time that they were all together as a family for meals, etc. It is kind of nice to find time to share.