



Our Lady Queen of Heaven Church
WE ARE A DIVERSE COMMUNITY UNITED IN THE CATHOLIC FAITH

Dear Beloved Parishioners of Our Lady Queen of Heaven:

On March 7/8 weekend, few of us had any knowledge that would be our last celebration of the Eucharist when Fr. Theo Okpara from Cross Catholic Outreach presided/preached at our Masses. Since those nine weeks, so much has happened that has affected our families, our jobs, and our lifestyles. The practice of our faith has changed temporarily. We are unable to assemble as a community for: Mass, the other sacraments, religious education, social gatherings, and community service. Yet, it is clear to me that the love of Jesus and the love of one another is strong at Our Lady Queen of Heaven.

Our staff has been incredible in adjusting to a strong online presence on our website (www.ourladyqueenofheaven.org), and Our Lady Queen of Heaven Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/ourladyqueenofheavenchurch/>). We adjusted to online streaming of Masses from Holy Week through Sunday liturgies to the Wednesday/Friday Masses from the parish house of Fr. Vinner. And, we open the church for prayer on Mondays through Thursdays from 10am to 12noon.

It may not need to be stated but we miss you. I know that in my own reflection, I am more grateful than ever for those of you I have come to know and the love you continue to manifest to so many as you love one another and give others hope. I want to give you a quick overview of our financial situation during this pandemic situation.

First, with last year's Annual Catholic Appeal, we are currently short \$11,221.12. What this means is that at some point in the near future, we will have to make up the difference and pay the shortfall from our parish savings account. The Archdiocese runs the Annual Catholic Appeal, which helps them fund operations, formation programs, and charitable works. The Archdiocese assesses us by how much ordinary income we bring in. You should have already received a letter this week from Archbishop Paul Etienne about the new ACA for 2020.

Second, we applied for and received the Federal Paycheck Protection Plan loan that is, a grant to pay our staff salaries. The amount we were given was c. \$81,000

– enough to pay all our staff through June 30th of this year without having to take from our savings. That federal “loan” is a huge help to us.

Lastly, I wanted to emphasize how thankful we are for your continued generosity during these trying times. It is understandable that there is a decrease in Stewardship giving since the closure of our Church. As of the first week in May, we are about \$25,000 in the red for our current budget. The following chart below shows, for the most part, how we are doing for the first quarter of 2020. The first quarter goes from January 2020 – March 2020. We do not have the total contributions for April 2020, but we are happy to announce that online giving has been at its highest over time with \$7,846.46 in April 2020.

Month	January 2020	February 2020	March 2020	April 2020
“Regular” envelope giving	\$40,294.65	\$40,713.45	\$36,773.50	N/A
Online Contributions	\$4,681.80	\$3,934.46	\$6,357.17	\$7,848.46
<u>Total for month</u>	\$44,976.45	\$44,647.91	\$43,130.67	

During this time of the temporary cessation of our operations at the parish, I urge you to use our website (www.ourladyqueenofheaven.org) as the primary place for up to date information/events regarding Our Lady Queen of Heaven’s faith community. It will provide the latest information from the Archdiocese of Seattle in concert with Gov. Inslee’s direction regarding the status of our situation with his plan to phase more opening up of our culture. Please, if you have not already done so, email Nathan Scott at nathans@ourladyqueenofheaven.org with your updated email and phone number. That way we can stay in touch with you more easily and at far less cost.

Please know that we continue to lift you up in prayer each day. We look forward to the time when we can gather for the Eucharist together!

In God’s great love, hope, and mercy,

Deacon Jim Fish
Pastoral Coordinator
Our Lady Queen of Heaven