

How are you? How are you physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually? How are you handling the degree of isolation that you are experiencing and how are you doing with the steady stream of news and warning reports? Are you spending more of each day watching the news and how are you doing without our usual Sunday Services and the opportunity to be with each other that way? Are you able to get, somehow, the essentials you need for daily living?

I can think of more questions to ask you, but I'm asking these questions because if your answer to any one or more is "not well, need help" then I wish you would let me know. There's a good possibility that among us there are ways we can be helping each other through this very challenging and difficult time. My email is, graves5924@bellsouth.net and phone# 432-5924. You are daily in my heart and prayers and I believe that together with God's help and love we can emerge from what probably will be a long nightmare more closely bound to each other, more aware of each other, and more deeply connected with God (Jesus) daily in prayer and other ways.

By now you have probably been called by the person who has your name to call once each week until we are through this. They are calling to check in on you to find out how you are and if you need help. The eight people doing the calling are Sally Crenshaw, Marjorie Bentz, Jan Pearce, Lowell & Deborah Bassett, Peg Watson, Pat & Libby O'Brien, Judy Edge, and Carol & Ray Boquero. When I called each of them, not surprisingly, said " Yes ".

Every Sunday at 9:30 am we are offering a video reflection by me on the day's Gospel along with prayers and singing something together. Sally has sent each of us links to what other parishes in our Diocese are live streaming on Sundays and weekday Services. Coming next week that will include live Services for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. I have asked her to repeat and update that information for you and I am grateful for her ready willingness to do this for us.

Next week you will get another email from me on suggestions for ways to celebrate Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter at home. We all know this will not be the same as being physically together in our usual place, but I see no reason to concede to COVID19 the Celebration of these important times in our life together with Christ. We may even discover ourselves hearing and seeing and experiencing something unexpectedly wonderful in the simplicity of our worship. I am certain that our first Sunday back together in our familiar and beautiful Church Home, whenever that is, will be an Easter Celebration of great joy. I will wait for that day for us to dig up the "A" word we buried on Shrove Tuesday.

One more important thing. If you do not already have a set time each day to stop what you're doing and pray, connect with God, please start now, today. It is extremely important that you have the routine, the habit of doing this. This will help you be grounded and centered in a profound and necessary way as we move through the weeks ahead, however many that may be. More on that later.

Bless be the tie that binds our hearts in mutual Love.

Peace, Fr. Bob