



Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday – Palm Sunday – marks the beginning of Holy Week. Holy Week 2020 will be like nothing we've ever experienced. **There will be no public Masses. There will be no ceremonies in our parish church. There will be no palms provided on Palm Sunday. There will be no processions, no confessions, no Holy Communion.** The moratorium on public masses has been extended until at least May 1. The "stay-at-home" order and social distancing seem to be working in "flattening the curve" and slowing the spread of the coronavirus in Ohio. **I urge everyone to be very patient, to continue to stay home even during Holy Week, and to stay healthy.**

I have always loved Holy Week ever since I was a child. I became an altar boy in the second grade and I always served for the ceremonies of Holy Week whenever I could. I remember one spring day when I was about eight or nine years old, I was sitting on the back porch and singing the chant from the Good Friday Liturgy: *Oremus; Flectamus Genua; Levate.* ("Let us pray; let us kneel; let us stand.") I was singing it over and over. My sister came out of the back door and asked me, "What's wrong with you? You got Holy Week hangover?" Like I said, I've always loved Holy Week, so this is going to be a difficult year for me, as I know it will be for you too.

The Diocese of Columbus has prepared a book of prayers and activities to help celebrate Holy Week at home. You can access this online at <https://columbuscatholic.org/liturgical-and-prayer-resources>. The ceremonies of Holy Week will not be celebrated at St. Andrew. Rather, I urge you to follow the masses and ceremonies of the Sacred Triduum as celebrated by Bishop Brennan online or on Catholic Radio.

Also, Easter Sunday Mass from St. Joseph Cathedral will be broadcast on our local NBC affiliate (channel 4) at 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday. We will also make Sunday Mass from St. Andrew's available on YouTube and Facebook, including Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. We hope you continue to join us in celebrating Mass from your homes.

Your Pastor,
Msgr. Stephan Moloney