



Dear Parishioners,

**This weekend we observe Mother's Day and I want to wish all mothers, grandmothers, mothers-in-law, stepmothers, godmothers, and mothers-to-be a very Happy Mother's Day!** May your children celebrate you; your families praise you; your friends and relatives honor you; and may God bless you! Those moms who have been at home with your families for many weeks of "sheltering in place" have certainly exhibited heroic patience and dedication. If only your spouses and children could treat you to a nice dinner "out" at a fine restaurant to honor you. You are probably tired of eating "in" and getting bored with your own cooking. I know I am!

**About two weeks ago, a parish family delivered a nice meal to the rectory for Fr. Lehigh and me.** The dinner included salad, pasta, meatballs and sauce, wine and dessert. There was also a bottle of Italian salad dressing included. At first, I wasn't going to open the salad dressing because we already had some in the refrigerator. But then I decided to open and use the salad dressing that had been delivered with the meal, because, as I told Fr. Lehigh, we would pretend that we were dining out at "Ken's Steak House," since that was the brand name of the salad dressing! Oh, the things we do to keep ourselves from going crazy from boredom and losing hope.

In the past, we distributed flowers to all mothers at the weekend masses on Mother's Day. Obviously, we won't be doing that this weekend, but **we will make a contribution to the Women's Care Center in honor of our mothers and to help the young mothers served by the Center.**

**I do want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have helped us "close the gap" by continuing your contributions to the St. Andrew Offertory during these difficult times.** Our Sunday offertory dropped dramatically back in March when Masses were suspended, but lately have rebounded nicely in spite of the fact that there still are no public Masses and no "passing of the basket." But you have been using electronic giving, mailing in or dropping off your offertory donations to the parish office, and I am VERY grateful. Please keep it up as you are able. Some of you have made some extra generous gifts as well and I profoundly thank you! **St. Andrew parishioners are the best!** I also want to inform you that St. Andrew Parish has applied for and received a loan through the Federally sponsored "Payroll Protection Program" of the Small Business Administration. We qualified for this loan because we are keeping our employees on the payroll during the time of idleness and reduced revenue due to the pandemic. This loan will also help us "close the gap" and will most likely be forgiven according to the terms of the federal program.

**As we look forward to the possibility of once again having public Masses, hopefully by Pentecost Sunday (May 30/31), I ask you to continue to be patient.** You have been tremendously patient for two months already, but as anticipation and eagerness to return to Mass and the sacraments grows, please continue to be calm. Even when Masses resume, we must still exercise extreme caution as the coronavirus is still a threat. Many of you may not wish – or be able – to return to Mass right away, especially if you are in a high-risk category.

**Let us continue to be faithful to God, faithful to the Holy Catholic Church, and faithful in prayer for one another throughout these days. May God bless you all!**

Your Pastor,  
Msgr. Stephan Moloney