



SAINT ANDREW
PARISH

March 18, 2021

Dear Parishioners:

This week we begin the time known as “Passiontide,” which occurs during the last two weeks before Easter and includes Holy Week. Our attention is drawn to the betrayal, suffering, and death of our Savior Jesus Christ. It is during this time that the statues and crucifix in the church are veiled. It is a solemn and somber time in the church’s liturgical year. Let us observe it solemnly.

Speaking of Holy Week, I want to let you know that on the Monday of Holy Week (March 29) we are observing **“Reconciliation Monday.”** Throughout the Diocese of Columbus, churches will be open for confessions that day, usually during the hours of 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Here at St. Andrew, we are also participating in this, and priests will be available that day from 4:00 until sometime in the evening hours. We already were planning to have confessions available that Monday and Wednesday of Holy Week (March 31) from 7:00 p.m. until all are heard, and we will continue to plan on that. But we will begin at 4:00 on “Reconciliation Monday.” I hope many of you will take advantage of this opportunity to experience the Lord’s mercy and forgiveness.

Thank you to all who responded to the Easter Mass survey. Based on the results of this, we have determined that we will not be requiring reservations for the Easter masses. There will likely be attendance at the Easter Masses which will approach the limited capacity of the church, but we believe that those attending should be able to choose their seats as we have been doing on Sundays. It is still necessary for those attending Mass at St. Andrew to wear masks. If the number attending Easter Mass makes it necessary to do so, some may be permitted to occupy pews that are normally closed. Our experts have advised us that this is safe to do, as long as all are wearing masks and other safety protocols are observed. So please do not be alarmed if you happen to see this. I want to be clear that I am not opening up all the pews for Easter but am anticipating allowing some exceptions if it becomes necessary. I do hope that we will soon be able to relax these restrictions which we have been under for so long.

Finally, Thank You to all who completed the Disciple Maker Index survey. The survey closes this weekend, so if you have not yet completed it, this is your last chance! This Sunday (March 21) is the last day.

May God bless you all in these Lenten days.

Your Pastor,
Msgr. Stephan Moloney