

SAINT LEO THE GREAT CHURCH
885 Sweet Home Road
Amherst, New York
716-835-8905
www.stleothegreatamherst.com

March 19, 2020

Dear parishioners:

Grace and peace to you! Let us continue to pray for each other during this very challenging time. Please note the following updates.

- Masses will be celebrated and live streamed at www.stleothegreatamherst.com for both parishes of St. Benedict's and St. Leo's:
 - Weekdays - 8:00 a.m. – the intentions of each parish will be offered.
 - Wednesday Evening mass at 6:30 p.m.
 - Weekends:
 - Saturdays 4:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. (Mass intentions from each parish celebrated as requested)
 - Sundays 8:00; 9:00; 10:00 and 11:00 a.m. (Mass intentions from each parish celebrated as requested)
- N.B. All masses are closed to the public until further notice by decision of the Bishop.
- The Saturday 4:00 p.m. Vigil mass will be archived to be watched at any time during the week on-line.
 - Wednesday evening a priest will be available for Reconciliation in the Church at 6:00 p.m. or by appointment.
 - St. Benedict's Church will be opened for private prayer and devotion from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Mon – Fri.
 - St. Leo's Chapel will be open from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., with the Blessed Sacrament exposed for adoration.
 - Mon. – Fri. St. Leo's Chapel is live stream 24-7 for prayer at home.
 - Anointing of the Sick will be administered by request – please call the parish office of either St. Benedict's or St. Leo's.

- Funerals will still be celebrated in both parishes. It is recommended that only immediate families attend these funerals.
- Stations of the Cross have been cancelled.
- Communion to the homebound is cancelled for March and April. Family members who wish to bring Holy Communion to homebound are asked to contact the parish office.
- Coffee with the pastor is postponed at both parishes.
- All Religious Education, Lifelong Faith Formation, Youth and Young Adult Ministries are cancelled until further notice.
- St. Leo's parish office hours are changed to 9 AM – 1 PM Monday – Friday

Additionally, because of the length of cancellations, we encourage parishioners, if they are able, to continue to send weekly offerings. You are welcome to mail in your envelopes with your contribution or drop them off in the parish office mail slot. Also, donation may be made online giving through website www.stleothegreatamherst.com (Bank Account or Credit Card). It is a secure, safe and convenient method which is used by many parishioners. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office at 835-8905. Thank you for your generosity and consideration during this challenging time which has impacted all of us.

Weekly bulletins are available on our website.

During this time of separation from each other as a parish family, let us certainly keep each other in prayer, make a phone call to another parishioner, pass on the information and updates, or a simply checking in online can go a long way in bring comfort and Christ's love to our brothers and sisters.

Your parish priests are praying for you and your loved ones. If you have any questions, please phone the parish office. We rely on your prayers as well.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. Robert E. Zapfel

Rev. Joseph C. Gatto