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FAQ'S for the Mass shutdown:

Does this mean that Masses will not be offered?

No, it does not. Mass will always be offered by Fr. Barron on a daily basis. He will not be leaving the local area during this time.

Fr. Barron will offer Saturday evening Mass at 4:30 every Saturday. Fr. Barron will offer Sunday morning Mass at 8:30 P.M.

Fr. Barron will offer Mass Monday through Friday at one of the churches at 7 A.M.

Mass will be livestreamed daily, using FACEBOOK LIVE. We have discontinued our old Facebook group and started a new one. If you use FACEBOOK, please join our new group *Partnered Parishes of St. Mary's and Assumption*. **Joining the Facebook Group is the only way to view the livestream on your SMARTPHONE.** You can access the livestream or watch the Mass video later in the day by scrolling down through the feed on the group page. You can also view the livestream and archived Mass video on our **parish website, www.stmarysassumption.com** – **but you cannot watch the livestream or Mass video archive on the parish website using a smartphone. Only with a desktop or laptop computer.**

Is religious education cancelled?

Religious Education at St. Mary's and in Dubois is cancelled until further notice. In time, notice will go out to the parents about how we will deal with 1st Penance and 1st Holy Communion, and the making up of religious education classes. Confirmation is concluded for 2020. Sometime in July we will begin planning for Confirmation 2021.

Is the Assumption Fish Fry cancelled? Is St. Mary's Bingo cancelled?

The Assumption fish frys are cancelled for the rest of Lent (no takeout) and St. Mary's Bingo is cancelled until further notice.

*Will Easter Sunday, Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil be cancelled?
Will the Blessing of Easter baskets at Assumption on Holy Saturday be cancelled?*

All of these things will be cancelled for 2020. Fr. Barron will offer Palm Sunday Mass at 4:30 P.M. on Saturday, April 4th. Father will offer Palm Sunday Mass at 8:30 A.M. Father will offer Holy Thursday liturgy on Thursday, April 9th at 7 P.M. Adoration will be livestreamed until 10 p.m. Good Friday liturgy will be offered on Friday, April 10th at 1 P.M. Father will offer the Easter Vigil Mass on April 11 at 8:30 p.m. Father will offer Easter Sunday Mass on Sunday, April 12th at 8:30 a.m.

Will Palms be made available on Palm Sunday this year?

Palms will be made available at both St. Mary's Parish in Reynoldsville and Assumption Parish in Sykesville, as long as both churches are open. They will be placed inside the front doors of both churches.

Are Stations of the Cross cancelled?

Public Stations of the Cross are cancelled for the remainder of Lent. The faithful are invited to make Stations of the Cross privately. Please provide your own booklet.

Will my scheduled Mass intention be offered?

Mass intentions scheduled will be fulfilled. No more mass intentions will be scheduled at this time. Some of the weekend mass intentions (Sat. evening, Sunday morning) will need to be postponed and rescheduled to the following Wednesday and will be offered. Thanks for your patience.

Can I come to Mass when it is offered?

Unfortunately, no. The doors will be locked at the before and during Mass times. Please do not come!

Will the Church locations be open to prayer?

Yes. The times will be posted on the doors at both Assumption and St. Mary's.

Can I come for confession?

Yes! Confessions will be offered at the following times and locations weekly:

Sundays at Assumption 1-3 P.M.; Mondays at Assumption 6-7 P.M.; Tuesdays at Assumption 6-7 P.M.; Wednesdays at St. Mary's 6-7 P.M. Thursdays at St. Mary's 6-7 P.M.; Fridays at St. Mary's 6-7 P.M.; no Confessions Saturday at either location.

How can I contribute to the parish offertory and/or the Catholic Services Appeal?

Sign up for online giving on the parish website or on the parish app, by tapping the icon called “giving”. You will be able to physically drop your envelope off at both Assumption and St. Mary’s rectories at your convenience, 24/7. A mail slot at the rectory office front door is available at both Assumption and St. Mary’s rectories. Money will continue to be counted and deposited at the bank.

What if I need to contact Father to have him make a sick call to the hospital, home, or nursing home?

If you have already received Last Rites from a priest in recent days, you do not need to be anointed or receive absolution again. If you have not been anointed and you are seriously ill, follow this procedure:

If you are at home – call Fr. Barron at 814-503-0028

If you are at the nursing home – call your nursing home staff and ask them to call Fr. Barron at the number listed above, and he will come.

If you are at the hospital – call the hospital staff and ask them to call Fr. Barron at the number listed above, and he will come.

Will funerals be celebrated?

Yes. From the Diocese of Erie: “Funeral Masses may continue to be celebrated, but only with the immediate family members and funeral home workers present.” - From Fr. Barron – this applies to the Funeral Mass in the actual church building. Immediate family members would be considered to be the parents, grandparents, and siblings of the deceased person. To extend out further into the family tree, consult your funeral director. Be reminded that the Executive Office of the President of the USA has ordered that gatherings over 10 people are not allowed.

For limitations of persons attending services held at funeral parlors, not at the church, you will need to talk to your funeral director for his/her decision on crowd size allowances.

From Fr. Barron – no funeral luncheons will take place at either St. Mary’s or Assumption churches, until further notice.

Only immediate family will be allowed to attend committal services at the cemeteries.

Fr. Barron will not be offering vigil prayers at the funeral home until further notice.

Fr. Barron will be available to celebrate a Funeral Mass, a committal service, or the funeral liturgy at the funeral parlor the day of the funeral. Arrange with your funeral director.

Can my loved one be buried at your parish cemetery?

Yes. Cemetery office business will continue as normal in all respects. Fr. Barron will be available for committal prayers of caskets or cremated remains at the cemetery.

I have a wedding and/or baptism scheduled at your church? Will it still happen?

From the Diocese of Erie: Marriages may continue to be celebrated, but only with the bride, groom, two witnesses, and immediate family members present.

From the Diocese of Erie: Baptisms may continue to be celebrated, but only with the sponsor-godparent(s), and immediate family members present. New water must be blessed for every individual baptism.

From Fr. Barron – immediate family members are to be understood as the parents, grandparents, and siblings of the one to be baptized.

When can I get a hold of my parish secretary?

The parish offices are closed until further notice. Phone systems, email systems, and mail will continue to work and will be checked, but prompt responses cannot be expected by the parishioners and the general public.