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Welcome *home*.

Dear Christ the Redeemer Parishioners,

Weekly Update for March 10, 2021

Phase 3 Covid-19 Precautions: If you feel ill, please stay home so that you can recover more quickly. A cloth face mask that covers your nose and mouth is mandatory. Please keep visiting to a minimum, with facemasks, and outside the buildings. We have hand sanitizer and facemasks at our entrances for your convenience. When Mass is over, I am asking everyone to make their way all the way out of the building before stopping. Two sections of pews are reserved to maintain social distancing. In the other sections of pews, a strict six feet does not need to be maintained; however, we should still try to distance as much as possible. The process around communion, confession, and the Sunday Mass obligation are unchanged.

Practicing Lent: For Lent this year, we are using *The Search* from formed.org. Each week you can watch a new video. Each Wednesday, I will host a Mercy Night both in person and online. These nights will coincide with the content of *The Search*. Our Sunday Masses will focus on deeper participation in the Liturgy. Finally, we will have lots of time for the sacrament of Reconciliation. ctr-htdiocese.org/lentscheduleandevents

The Search: What is this journey in between the event we call “birth” and the one we call “death”? Is the journey taking you somewhere, or are you leading yourself to some kind of destination – a destination that could extend beyond your last breath? What do you want from your life during the in between? The questions are there. And, the answers are too.

CRS Rice Bowl: Each year Catholic Relief Services collects funds to feed people in need across the world through their *Rice Bowl* program. Rice Bowls should be turned in on Palm Sunday, March 28.

Easter Egg Project: Our 2021 Lenten Easter Egg is going on wonderfully. All of the eggs have been taken. If you still want to be involved, we can continue to accept needed items without a tag. Packages are due back on March 21. Financial donations can be made directly to the food bank.

Way of the Cross: Stations of the Cross are prayed at 5:30 PM in our church. The booklets for the way of the cross are individually wrapped and located on the table as you walk into the main part of our Church. If you intend to celebrate the stations with us this season, please take one and keep it with you for the season. Once our parishioners are served additional books can be purchased for \$5.

CTR Prayer Line: “Again, Amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” [Matthew 18:19-20] Please allow us to pray with you through your need. To make prayer requests on our Prayer Line please contact Dee at 985.447.8712

Come Spend an Hour with the Lord: There are open hours for adoration at 3 PM on Sunday, 8 AM on Wednesday, and 1 PM on Friday. If you have ever considered regularly spending some time with the Lord, now is a great time to start. Please call Sara Oubre or JoAnna LeBeouf if you would like to commit to a slot. Sara: 985.446.8662 [H], 985.859.4874 [C], or 985.447.9363. JoAnna: 985.209.8181

Sunday Obligation: The obligation to attend Mass on Sunday remains lifted. If you cannot or choose not to attend Sunday Mass for any reason, you will not be sinning.

Prayer to St. Joseph: O, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in you all my interests and desires. O, St. Joseph, do assist me by your powerful intercession, and obtain for me from your divine son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below your heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.

Oh, St. Joseph, I never weary of contemplating you, and Jesus asleep in your arms; I dare not approach while he reposes near your heart. Press him in my name and kiss his fine head for me and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. Saint Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for me. Amen. [*Oratio* p. 88]

Prayer for Priestly Vocations: O Jesus, our compassionate High Priest, we ask you to raise up among our Christian communities abundant and holy vocations to the priesthood. Grant to the men whom you are calling to this holy service the grace to stay close to your Sacred Heart. Aid them in their commitment to prayer and grant them the grace to hear your voice more clearly each day. Give them the humility and the charity to respond to your invitation in discerning this vocation. May they encounter you close to them in every step of their journey, being reminded that they are never without you and your guidance. We ask this in your name, Jesus. Mary, Mother of Priests, pray for us.

Thank you,
Fr. Alex Gaudet