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Welcome *home*.

Dear Christ the Redeemer Parishioners,

Weekly Update for December 30, 2020

Catholic Charities Collection: Thank you all who participated in the Catholic Charities Christmas collection. These funds will go to help families in need across the diocese.

Home Blessing: Below you will find the annual blessing of a home during the Christmas season which is associated with the celebration of the Epiphany this weekend. Please take a few moments to pray together with your household in celebration of the New Year.

Holiday Office Hours: Closed @ Noon on 12/23/2020 reopen at 8a on 1/4/2021

Personal Time: I will be away from our parish for a few days next week for rest and prayer. The Advent and Christmas Seasons have been beautiful and exhausting. I appreciate your prayers and love for myself and the priests that will be taking my place while I am away. We will not have Mass live-streamed from Tuesday until Saturday. Sunday Mass will be streamed.

Holiday Precautions: The Advent and Christmas celebrations will bring a good number of new people to celebrate with us in our parish. Good practices around the Coronavirus, the flu, and other illnesses are more important than usual. If you are experiencing any sort of illness, please remain at home so that you can recover more quickly and restrict the spread of infections. Bishop Fabre and I ask that everyone wear a facemask that covers their mouth and nose for the whole time that you are on our campus. I ask you to keep visiting to a minimum with facemasks, at least six feet apart, and outside the buildings when possible. We have hand sanitizer and facemasks at our entrances for your convenience. When Mass is over, I am asking everyone to go all of the way out of the building before stopping.

Come Spend an Hour with the Lord: There are open hours for adoration on Tuesday at 10 AM, 3 PM, 4 PM, & 5 PM, on Thursday at 10 AM, and on Friday at 9 AM, 10 AM, & 2 PM. If you have ever considered regularly spending some time with the Lord now is a great time to start. Please call Sara Oubre if you would like to commit to a slot. 985.446.8662

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. There is no shame in choosing not to attend Mass if you are vulnerable, are caring for someone who is, are caring for young children for whom the distancing will be difficult, are concerned about getting sick, or for any other reason. Please take this time to sanctify your week in some other fashion until life returns to normal.

Finally, please help our Christ the Redeemer family by sharing this letter with as many people as you can. Only with your assistance can we assure that every Christ the Redeemer parishioner who wants to receive our updates can. Thank you.

Thank you,
Fr. Alex Gaudet

Order for the Blessing of Homes During the Christmas and Easter Season:

Blessed be the name of the Lord.

All: Now and for ever.

Brothers and sisters, listen to the words of the holy gospel according to Luke:

Jesus came to Jericho and intended to pass through the town. Now a man there named Zacchaeus, who was a chief tax collector and also a wealthy man, was seeking to see who Jesus was; but he could not see him because of the crowd, for he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree in order to see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When he reached the place, Jesus looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, come down quickly, for today I must stay at your house.” And he came down quickly and received him with joy. When they all saw this, they began to grumble, saying, “He has gone to stay at the house of a sinner.” But Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Behold, half of my possessions, Lord I shall give to the poor, and if I have extorted anything from anyone I shall repay it four times over,” And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house because this man too is a descendant of Abraham.” [19:1-9]

Let us pray:

**Lord God of heaven and earth,
You revealed your only-begotten Son to every nation
By the guidance of a star.**

**Bless this house
And all who inhabit it.
Fill them with the light of Christ,
That their concern for others may reflect your love.**

We ask this through Christ our Lord.