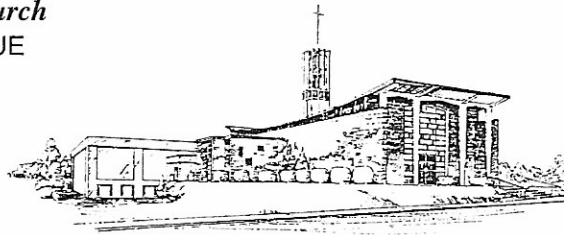


St. Mark the Evangelist Church
395 SOUTH RIDGE AVENUE

P.O. BOX 218
GREENCASTLE, PA 17225
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March 18, 2020

“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” Isaiah 41:10

Dear Ones,

During the past several weeks, we have quickly seen the coronavirus/COVID-19 grow from an overseas threat to one that is now a present reality for all of us. I wish to reassure you that during the past week, our Parish and the Diocese have responded promptly to this ever-changing situation by implementing the recommendations from our public health professionals in order to prevent the spread of this virus. This week, Bishop Gainer announced that, out of great concern for the faithful, he is temporarily suspending all daily and weekend public Masses in the Diocese and is asking parishes to close their buildings.

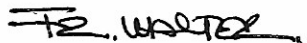
Please understand these requests are for your safety, the safety of your fellow Parishioners, the safety of those at-risk family members living at home with our Parishioners and the safety of our Parish Staff. As your Pastor, please be assured of my continued prayers for you, your families, and all those affected by this virus. This rapidly changing circumstance may lead some to experience feelings of panic, fear, worry, and doubt. As we read in Isaiah, our Lord tells us to not fear for He is always with us and will uphold us during times of trouble.

I pray that all of us will first face these times with prayer, asking for our Lord’s healing for the sick, protection for those caring for the ill, and for His comforting hands on those who are fearful. Next, although the doors to our Parish are closed, we should continue to find ways to live our faith and to also find strength through the Word of God. Several Parishes throughout the Diocese are live streaming Masses to Parish websites and social media. A listing of the Parishes streaming their Masses can be found at www.hbgdiocese.org/coronavirus.

With your prayers and support, the works of Saint Mark and Saint Luke will continue. I ask you to pray for our Parish, our Diocese and our Country. I know these times are challenging, but I humbly ask for your continued financial support so that we may continue our vital functions. Without your gifts, our Parish may struggle. Gifts can be made by mailing your check to the Parish, or through using our online system at <https://www.stmarkstlukeparish.org> and click on the Parish Giving logo.

Thank you for your continued support of St. Mark the Evangelist Parish and St. Luke the Evangelist Mission. May God keep you safe, continue to bless you and your families, and keep us all in His loving care.

In Christ,


Fr. Walter Guzmán
Pastor