



Dear Basilica Friends,

In light of the State mandate to close all non-essential businesses, the Basilica Office will close effective immediately but the Basilica Church will be open for private prayer from:

- 11AM to 7PM, Monday through Friday
- 11AM to 5PM, Saturday and Sunday

I will hear confessions from 5-6PM on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Please note: only 10 people may be in the Basilica at one time. Our security will strictly enforce this State mandate for the protection of all. The Basilica must obey this.

As I mentioned, our Basilica office is required to close—effective immediately. We will be unable to respond as we normally do. Please be patient. We will do our best!

I am getting over an illness myself. Once I regain my strength, I will begin live-streaming again. By the end of this week, I plan to announce a new livestream Mass schedule. Of course, I will let you know it as soon as possible so you can participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass with me—even if from afar. Until then, you can find the Mass live-streamed here: www.archbalt.org/online-mass/

On a spiritual note...

Let us NOT despair!

This is a time to long for the sacraments—so that we never take them for granted again. This is a time to deepen our prayer lives. This is a time to do some real, serious spiritual reading. This is a time to make sure you stop by the Church and pay a visit to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. This is a time to go to confession—a requirement for anyone who wishes to enter into Heaven. This is a time to make sure our souls are right—so that when we finally gather together for Mass, we are ready to meet our Lord as never before! What a GLORIOUS reunion that will be!

This is also a time to get right with our families. Let's ask for forgiveness. Let's give it too. Let's say "I love you," a little more often.

I am praying for you. I am hurting for and with you. And I will try to make myself as available to you as humanly possible.

This is the time for saints to step up. Let's do it!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rev. James Borie". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Fr. James

PS: Here is a link to the Sunday readings:

<http://www.usccb.org/bible/readings/031420.cfm>

And here is a prayer to make a spiritual communion:

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/devotions/act-of-spiritual-communion-339>