

*The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Michael the Archangel, Annunciation, and St. Clement Mary Hofbauer*

A Franciscan "Pastorate" in the Archdiocese of Baltimore

Friary: 2 Willow Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21206 (Tel. 443-962-4646)

March 22, 2020

Our Response to the Coronavirus Crisis: A Message from Friar Timothy

Dear Parishioners and friends:

These are certainly unprecedented times! And so I want to share with you some of our Coronavirus contingency plans.

- (1) We must comply with all of the directives of our government and our Archdiocese as we respond to this coronavirus crisis.
- (2) The CDC has directed that for the duration of this crisis people should not gather in groups of more than ten (10). We must adhere to this standard in any activities that might occur in any of our three churches. This includes attendance at baptisms, weddings and funerals which unfortunately must be limited only to immediate families and friends. Efforts should be made to postpone such events if possible.
- (3) All of our normally scheduled activities are cancelled until further notice.
- (4) For now, and for the duration of this crisis, we plan to keep our parish offices open as usual. But we strongly encourage our parishioners NOT to come to the offices in person, but rather to call and/or email or text us for whatever assistance you might need. My email is timothy.dore@archbalt.org, or you can call or send a text to me on my cell phone at 443-962-4646.
- (5) Without special permission, we are unable to visit hospitals and/or nursing homes.
- (6) We have very heavy hearts as we comply with the mandate to cancel all public Masses in our three parishes. But I want you to know that until we get through this crisis, and each weekday at 4:00 p.m., our friars will be concelebrating a daily Mass together in the friary chapel. During this time, we will honor all of the Mass intentions that are on the books at St. Michael the Archangel, Annunciation, and St. Clement Mary Hofbauer. We will also remember all of the intentions of our parishioners, of our friends and of our family members. Although we unfortunately cannot invite others to join us in person for the Mass, we surely invite everyone to join us "in spirit" each day at 4:00 p.m.
- (7) We encourage our parishioners to tune in to televised and/or online Masses. The Catholic television network EWTN has a schedule of broadcasted Masses. If you have internet access, you can visit the Archdiocesan website that lists livestreamed Masses. Go to <https://www.archbalt.org/online-mass>. Also, and each Sunday at 9:03 a.m. on WCBM-680 AM there is a "Radio Mass" broadcasts live from St. Ignatius in Baltimore. The same Mass is rebroadcast each Sunday evening at 6:03 p.m.
- (8) We strongly encourage our sick, elderly, and vulnerable parishioners to STAY HOME.
- (9) Let's pray for a full return to normalcy as soon as possible! Please FEAR NOT!

Peace my friends!

Friar Timothy