

Dear Cor Jesu community –

What a season we have entered! Filled with heartbreak, confusion, and fear. Especially in trial, the Heart of Christ beats forever with love for us. We remain a community and we've found a way to get a bit creative to ensure that we continue to participate in the gifts of sacramental grace as fully as possible.

Cor Jesu will be significantly different this week in light of recent CDC and DHS directives, which limit gatherings in enclosed spaces to ten people. St. Robert's and the JP II House are well-arranged to offer an alternative way to remain communally united to the Sacrifice of the Mass in person – rather than on-screen – while also observing all prudence and avoiding interpersonal contact.

Cor Jesu Holy Hour and Mass will take place privately in the JP II House chapel. As you've likely noticed over the years, the JP II House chapel window overlooks the St. Robert's parking lot. At 7:00pm, the Blessed Sacrament will be placed on the altar in that window for a Holy Hour. At 8:00pm, Holy Mass will take place in the same chapel. While the chapel is not open to the public, we will set up a group conference call for everyone in the parking so that they can participate and pray together from their cars. Both the live praise music from the chapel during Adoration and the prayers of the Mass will be broadcast to the same conference call.

Granted, this is a novel approach, and for those who wish to join us it merits several important clarifications. First and most significantly, we cannot distribute Holy Communion. We will make the Act of Spiritual Communion available to all who are present. We recall here that participation in the merits of Christ's victory on the Cross extends beyond the receipt of Holy Communion, a reality most meaningful in times such as this. Second, for the same reasons of prudence, we will not hear confessions. We note that many parishes have added extra hours of confession and urge you to seek out the sacrament there. Third, it will be important that all those who choose to join us remain in their cars to eliminate health risks and to observe Archdiocesan expectations or governmental directives.

If you wish to join us, please plan to enter the parking lot via the northernmost entrance on Farwell Ave; the other entrances will be closed for smooth traffic flow. Please be aware that once your car is in the lot, you will likely need to remain there until Mass concludes. If the lot fills, you may park along the streets but we remind you to please remain in your cars. Please use good judgement and adhere to basic parking and traffic regulations for the health and safety of all. If everyone abides by these guidelines, it will hopefully give us the ability to continue to offer Cor Jesu in this manner.

This is a Lent unlike any other. The Cor Jesu community has, in many ways, been a heartbeat of fidelity and renewal in the Archdiocese for nearly a decade. May it continue to be so!

In His Heart,  
Rev. John Burns