

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
750 Aurora Avenue, Naperville, IL 60540
Telephone: 630-355-0467



March 13, 2020

Dear People of God in the Parish Church of St. John's,

Our Bishop, Jeffrey D. Lee, has sent to all the parishes of the Diocese of Chicago, guidelines regarding the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus across our region. Until further notice, based on Bishop Lee's directives, this is the policy we are implementing at St. John's Episcopal Church – Naperville.

- Beginning this Sunday, March 15, 2020, we are suspending all Sunday Worship Services and mid-week Worship Services, including all Holy Week Activities and Services, until further notice.
- At the time of this writing the St. John's Preschool will be closed, tentatively until April 6, 2020 following the directives of DCFS and the local school district guidelines and regulations.
- Additionally, we are canceling all meetings, gatherings, and classes which include, bible study, confirmation and ministry meetings.
- All meetings of outside organizations, that use our facility, will also be canceled.
- We will be suspending our Lay Eucharistic Visitations to Independence Village and to our homebound parishioners.
- At this particular time, Pennywise Resale Shoppe will remain open, however, this is subject to change. (* 3/16/2020 – Now Closed)
- Telephone calls and e-mails will be responded to by the Parish Office Staff, however the Parish Office will be closed.
- Please continue to give your contributions to St. John's either by mail or by contributing on-line via our website (www.stjohns-episcopal.com). Simply click the "Contribute" button and follow the prompts.

Finally, as our Bishop wrote in his letter: "Among all the changes and chances of this mortal life, please pray for those in greatest need for wisdom for our civic leaders, for guidance for all of us who have responsibility for our congregations, and for those who are afraid and alone. Along with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, I offer to you this prayer for our time from Episcopal Relief & Development:

'God of the present moment, God who in Jesus stills the storm and soothes the frantic heart; bring hope and courage to all who wait or work in uncertainty. Bring hope that you will make them the equal of whatever lies ahead. Bring them courage to endure what cannot be avoided, for your will is health and wholeness; you are God, and we need you.' "

- Adapted from *New Zealand Prayer Book*, p. 765

In Christ,

Pastor Verna Fair+
Rector