

Dearest Parishioners,

I know that the intensity of the current situation continues to escalate and that uncertainty is rampant. During times of chaos, it is the stability that only our Lord can offer us that calms the storm of our hearts. We continue to offer an hour of adoration and confessions in the church daily, urging all who come to practice social distancing of at least six feet, preferably more. This weekend (3/21-22), we will be having adoration and confessions from 5-6PM on Saturday with Benediction at 6PM, and from 12-1PM on Sunday with Benediction at 1PM. We will have a basket in the main aisle as a place for you to deposit your weekly offering, without which we cannot continue to function. If you cannot or would rather not come to the church while others are present, I ask that you please either place your offering in the mailbox in front of the rectory, or sign up for online giving by following this link and clicking on the online donation tab: <http://www.stcolumbanonline.org/donations.htm>

Our school continues to function with distance learning with all of our hard-working teachers and staff putting in their time. The parish office, while closed, still functions remotely, but all of that cannot continue without your support. While I appreciate any donations that will come in for the rectory restoration, I am putting that on hold and will not solicit donations for that until the current crisis is behind us and the financial stability of the parish and school is assured.

My heart is heavy as we continue to be physically separated due to this virus. I feel as if my limbs have been severed because I am prohibited from offering all of the sacraments that you deserve to have. I will continue to offer what I can until those in authority deem it safe to do more. Pray for them as they make these no doubt difficult decisions. Pray that they are doing the right thing and that despite the hardships they are creating, our Lord will be merciful to those whom He has placed in these positions of authority.

Your servant in Christ,  
Fr. Koster