

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH
342 VINE STREET
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March 23, 2020

Dear St. Vincent DePaul Parishioners,

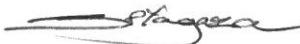
We are facing some very challenging times. Last week, Bishop Lucia suspended all public meetings, which means there are no Masses, no faith formation classes, and no distribution of communion to the home bound. This is a painful loss as the Eucharist is the center of our life of faith. This will be very hard for our elderly parishioners who struggle being alone. We encourage everyone to take the time to find ways to reflect, pray, and grow closer to God family and friends. There are many options online to help you to stay connected. The Diocesan website <https://www.syracusediocese.org/> contains many options for prayer, including the 9 day Novena prayer for an end to the Coronavirus pandemic. Masses will be live streamed every day from our Cathedral as well as in many parishes of the diocese and beyond. Take time to visit our website www.stvincentdepaulchurchsyr.org where you will be connected with our parish.

Social distancing is very important, but so is taking care of each other. Staying virtually connected with our fellow parishioners and family members will be the responsibility of each and every one of us. Jesus asks each of us to love God, your neighbor as yourself, so please take a few minutes each day to pray and check on our older parishioners and family members. Let them know you are there for them to run to the store or pharmacy if they should need assistance.

Many of you have asked how you can continue to support our parish during this time. You can either mail your weekly contribution directly to the rectory or drop your envelope in the rectory mailbox, but due to the current crisis, please refrain from coming inside the rectory.

If you need to contact us during this self-distancing time, please feel free to call the rectory (315) 479 6689, send us an email at stvincentsyr@syrдио.org at or send a message through our web site. I will be keeping you all in my thoughts and prayers. Please stay safe, make smart choices, and use the power of prayer to get through this challenging time.

Mary our mother, pray for us. God bless you and all your loved ones.



Father Severine