

Sacred Heart

PO Box 1310, 507 Harrison St.
Princeton, WV 24740
304-425-3664

Confessions: Saturday 3:00 - 3:45 pm
Sunday 10:30 - 11:00 am
and by appointment

Office Hours:
Mon - Thu 9 am - 2 pm

Pastor: Rev. Sebastian Devasya, V.E.

Sunday Mass is livestreamed



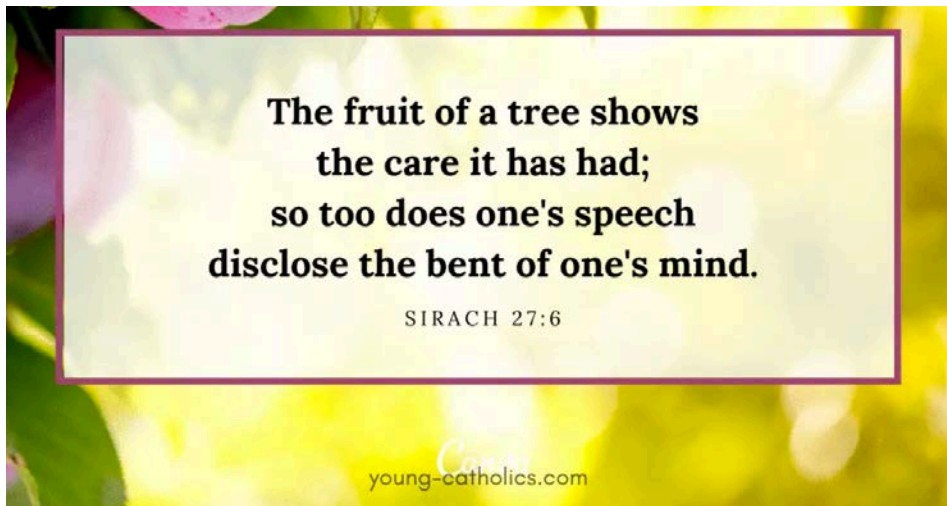
[@shprinceton](https://www.facebook.com/sacredheartprinceton) • Instagram photos and videos

Mass Times: Saturday - 4:00 pm | Sunday - 11:00 am | Tuesday - 6:00 pm | Thursday - Noon | First Friday - Noon

To our non-Catholic friends, we extend a warm invitation to for you to come forward and receive a Blessing when our Catholic brothers and sisters come forward to receive Holy Communion. Please come up to the Priest or Eucharistic Minister with your hands folded across your chest, so we will know that you wish to receive a Blessing. We are grateful for your presence.

Mass Intentions:

Saturday	Mar 1	4 pm	✝	Luningning M. Montenegro	by Tess Byron
Sunday	Mar 2	11 am	✝	John Shay	by Tess Byron
Tuesday	Mar 4	6 pm	✝	Estelle Reed Santon	by Jacinda Santon Reed
Thursday	Mar 6	Noon	✝	John Shay	by MaryAnn Shay
Saturday	Mar 8	4 pm	✝	Katherine Kamenski	by Joe Kamenski
Sunday	Mar 9	11 am		OCIA Participants	by OCIA team



Upcoming Events:

Fri	Feb 28	6:00 pm	Eucharistic Adoration
Wed	Mar 5	Noon & 6:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Masses
Fri	Mar 7	Noon	First Friday Mass & Stations of the Cross
Tue	Mar 11	6:45 pm	Parish Council
Fri	Mar 14	Noon	Stations of the Cross & Holy Communion
Sat	Mar 15	10:00 am	Baptismal Preparation Class
Sun	Mar 16	11:00 am	Youth Sunday

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we enter this holy season of Lent, we are reminded of the forty days that Jesus spent in the desert, preparing Himself for His public ministry. In the Gospel of Luke (4:1-13), we read how the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness, where He fasted and prayed, enduring great hunger, temptation, and solitude. In His isolation, Jesus experienced the full weight of human weakness and temptation, yet He remained faithful to His Father, trusting in His strength.

This time of retreat into the desert was not a moment of weakness, but of profound spiritual growth. Jesus withdrew from the distractions of the world to align His heart fully with the will of His Father. The desert, with all its desolation, became a place of clarity where He faced the devil's temptations with unwavering faith. Jesus teaches us that prayer, fasting, and penance are not meant to be burdensome but are avenues to deepen our relationship with God and prepare our hearts for the joys of Easter.

As we embark on our own Lenten journey, we are called to follow Jesus' example of retreat, fasting, and prayer. Our world today, filled with distractions and busyness, can make it difficult to create space for God. Yet, Lent offers us the precious opportunity to step away from our daily routines and focus on our spiritual needs. Let us take this time to pause, reflect, and return to God with renewed hearts.

Scripture Reflection

This week, I invite you to reflect on the words of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew (6:16-18), where He teaches us about fasting and prayer:

"When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not appear to be fasting, except to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you."

Three Questions for Reflection:

1. What are the distractions or attachments in my life keep me from a deeper relationship with God? How can I let go of them this Lent?
2. How can I incorporate more intentional prayer into my daily life during this season of Lent?
3. How can I serve the poor and those in need, both within and outside my community, during Lent?

I humbly ask for your prayers for those journeying through the Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA). These men and women are preparing to enter the Catholic faith, and we are called to support them with our prayers, love, and encouragement. Let us also join them in celebrating the Rite of Election, which will take place on the First Sunday of Lent. May the Holy Spirit guide and strengthen them on their path toward full initiation into the Church.

*Heavenly Father, As we begin our journey through this holy season of Lent,
we come before You with humble hearts.
We thank You for the example of Your Son, Jesus,
who fasted and prayed in the desert to prepare for His ministry.
Lord, help us follow His example of retreat, fasting, and prayer.
Grant us the strength to turn away from the distractions of the world
and seek You in the silence of our hearts.
May our fasting bring us closer to You.
May our almsgiving reflect Your love for the poor and the needy.
We pray for those journeying through the OCIA and ask that
You continue to guide them on their path toward full initiation into the Church.
We ask all this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ.
Amen.*

In Christ's love and peace,
Father Sebastian

Ash Wednesday Mass

Everyone is Welcome

Holy Mass with distribution of ashes.

Noon

Presider - Fr. Bao Nguyen, SVD

6 pm

Presider - Fr. Sebastian DeVasya, VE

Ashes hold deep symbolism in the Catholic Church, representing both our mortality and the need for repentance. This powerful symbol finds its roots in the Scriptures, where ashes were used as a sign of mourning and repentance. In the Old Testament, ashes were often associated with expressions of grief and sorrow. Job, for example, sat in ashes as a sign of his deep mourning and repentance before God. The prophet Daniel also fasted and covered himself in ashes as a way of seeking God's mercy and forgiveness for the sins of his people. These practices served as a visible reminder of the need to turn away from sin and return to God.

On Ash Wednesday, we receive ashes on our foreheads as a tangible reminder of our own mortality. As the priest or minister applies the ashes, they say the words, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." This solemn reminder prompts us to reflect on the brevity of life and the importance of living in accordance with God's will. The ashes also symbolize the need for repentance. They serve as a visible sign of our desire to turn away from sin and seek forgiveness. Just as the ashes are a product of burning, we are called to let go of the things that hinder our relationship with God and embrace a life of holiness.

Alternatively, the priest or minister will say "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel" or "Repent and believe the Good news" when applying the ashes. This call to conversion is a central theme of Ash Wednesday. The ashes remind us that we are called to turn away from sin and be faithful to the teachings of Jesus Christ. They serve as a visible sign of our commitment to live a life of repentance and renewal.

As we begin the season of Lent this Ash Wednesday, the symbolism of ashes invites us to reflect on our own mortality and the need for repentance. It reminds us that our time on earth is limited and that we must use it wisely to grow in holiness and draw closer to God. Let us embrace this symbol as a call to turn away from sin and embrace a life of conversion and renewal. Through the symbolism of ashes, we are reminded of the importance of repentance and the opportunity for spiritual growth during the Lenten season.

"Repent and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15) means to turn away from sin ("repent") and accept the good news of Jesus Christ ("believe in the gospel") as the path to salvation; it's essentially a call to change your life by trusting in Jesus as your savior. These are the words said as we receive ashes on Ash Wednesday.

Important Guidelines for Catholics

Fasting is to be observed on **Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** by everyone 18 years and older, who has not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day, one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, enough to maintain strength, may be taken, according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal.

Eating between meals is not permitted, but consuming liquids, including milk and juices, is allowed.

Abstinence is observed by everyone 14 years of age or older. On days of abstinence, **no meat is allowed**. Note that when health or the ability to work is affected, the law does not apply. **Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays during Lent, and Good Friday are days of abstinence**. If a person is unable to observe the above regulations due to ill health or other serious reasons, other suitable forms of self-denial are encouraged

Are YOU prepared to protect God's Vulnerable?



Sacred Heart & Diocese of Wheeling - Charleston

PROGRAM AND SERVICE OF THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC RISK RETENTION GROUP, INC.

VIRTUS[®]Online

	ANYTIME	www.virtusonline.com
---	----------------	--

→ → THIS ONLINE PROGRAM IS REQUIRED FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS IN THE DIOCESE OF WHEELING CHARLESTON AND SACRED HEART

- VIRTUS Requirements:**
- yearly training video
 - Initial training documents
 - background check every 3 years
 - Monthly training bulletins

Local VIRTUS Coordinator:
 Kim Hickman, 304-920-2440
khickman@sacredheartprinceton.org

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS for DISASTER RELIEF

Bishop Mark Brennan, has approved a special collection to be held this **weekend March 1-2** in all parishes and missions throughout the diocese to support recovery efforts related to the series of disasters that have occurred.

Checks should be made out to Sacred Heart with "Disaster Relief" on the memo line.
 Donations can also be made on the diocesan website at <https://dwc.org/disaster-relief/>.

CCWV is requesting donations of cleaning supplies: bleach, lime, trash bags, squeegees, brooms, mops. Also propane heaters with little tanks are being requested. Please, NO clothing.

Please bring any donation to the Narthex by Monday, March 3rd.



Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will begin this Friday, March 7, at noon.

This week members of "Walking with Purpose" will lead the Stations followed by a Lenten Lunch w/scripture

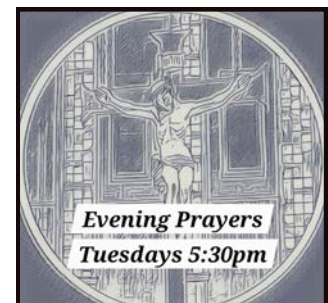
Upcoming Baptismal Preparation Class:

This class is for all expecting parents and new parents preparing for the baptism of their child. Please contact church office at 304-425-3664 to inquire about scheduling your child's baptism.

- Saturday, **March 15** - Time: 10:00 am
Location: Conference room
- Wednesday, **March 19** - Time: 6 pm -
Location: Conference Room

Walking in Grief Support Group:

Struggling with grief? Join our parish's grief support group and find comfort in community. Join us on **March 26** at 5:30 pm in the Narthex.



Sacred Heart invites you to join us in reciting the Evening Prayer on Tuesdays at 5:30 PM, just before the 6:00 PM Mass. Together, we will provide a guide to help you connect and engage.

Please be aware that on days when there is no daily Mass, we will not hold evening prayer.

Faith Formation (K-5):

Just a friendly reminder that our wonderful Catechists dedicate a lot of time and energy to help guide your children in Catholic teachings. When your child isn't able to attend, it can have an impact on our Catechists. If you signed your child up, we'd love to see them there; their attendance is so important for keeping our classes going. Thank you for your support!

We also have discussions about Sunday scripture in the conference room, so if you'd like to stay and engage, feel free to join other adults who are participating.

Youth Ministry (MS/HS):

Our next YM night will be on March 2 at 5:30 pm. More details to come.

Be sure to Save the Date, on Mar 14th we will have **"Silhouette Stations of the Cross."** If you youth would like to participate please let Laura Wyatt know as soon as possible.

Children's Liturgy of the Word (K-5):

Our next C.L.O.W. is happening on **Mar 16**. Please encourage your child to join us for a fun and engaging time, where they'll hear the liturgy in a way that's just right for them. It's a wonderful opportunity for them to connect with Scripture in a kid-friendly way!



Woman's Prayer Group
Thursday - 10:15 am

Feb. 27 Read-Reflect-Discuss
Readings and Prayers for
8th Sunday in Ordinary Time
and
Ash Wednesday
"Repent and Believe in the Gospel."

"Wilderness Within"

During Lent we warmly invite you to join us every Sunday at 9:30 AM in the upstairs conference room, where we will explore the wilderness of your heart as a place to be explored.

Please feel free to come any Sunday that feels right for you, whether it's just one or all of them. We look forward to sharing the 40 days of Lent with you!

Walking with Purpose:

We're really excited to see all of you. Here's what we'll be diving into in our next chapters!

Opening Your Heart: Lesson 17/
 Can God Really Change Me Or Is That Just Wishful Thinking?

Touching the Divine: Lesson 17/
 Jesus, the Intercessor



Order of Christian Initiation:

This week will will discuss: **"Lent"**
 The season of Lent gradually developed until the fourth century when it became the 40-day season that we still mark each year. The number 40 calls to mind Jesus' 40 days of fasting in the desert and the 40 years that Moses and the Israelites wandered in the wilderness.

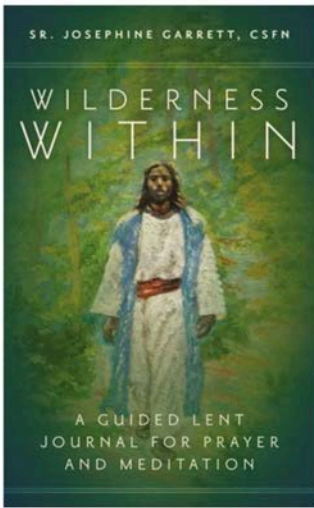
For information please contact Laura Wyatt at 304-425-3664 or lw Wyatt@sacredheartprinceton.org

POINT OF CONTACT

Faith Formation	Laura Wyatt
Adult Education	Laura Wyatt
OCIA	Laura Wyatt
Youth Ministry	Lorin Albin
Women's Prayer Group	Susie Pace
Men's Group	Jim Cosgrove Bill Picknally
Walking with Purpose (WWP)	KD Coleman Laura Wyatt

Religious Education Schedule of Events

Mar 2	Faith Formation class Lenten Journey (Wilderness Within)	classroom conference room	9:30 am
Mar 9	Women's Prayer Group Men's group WWP	conference room Narthex Narthex	10:15 am 10:15 6:30 pm
Mar 16	Faith Formation class Lenten Journey (Wilderness Within) Youth Sunday Children's Liturgy of the Word	classroom conference room	9:30 am Mass
Mar 17	OCIA	conference room	5:30 pm
Mar 23	Faith Formation class Lenten Journey (Wilderness Within)	classroom conference room	9:30 am
Mar 24	OCIA	conference room	5:30 pm
Mar 30	Women's Prayer Group WWP	conference room Narthex	10:15 am 6:30 pm



JOIN US on a **LENTEN JOURNEY**

Every Sunday
Starting: Sun, Mar 2
Time: 9:30 am
Location: Conference Room

In Wilderness Within, Sr. Josephine will guide you through the forty days of Lent to attend to the wilderness of your heart as a place to be explored, restored, and sent on mission by Jesus's tender love.

- **Week of Ash Wednesday:** Enter Lent by recognizing your ability to always begin anew in Christ.
- **Week One:** Open your heart to God's love, allowing yourself to reverence your heart as a gift from your Creator.
- **Week Two:** Reflect on the truth that we are created for relationships, and examine the relationships in your life.
- **Week Three:** Take an honest look at your limitations, wounds, and sin guided by a spirit of humility and repentance.
- **Week Four:** Begin to see how God designed your heart to be rescued by him and grow in your capacity to be healed by him.
- **Week Five:** Leave the wilderness of your heart so that you can go on mission—with a heart restored by Christ's love—to love your neighbor and be a good steward of the gifts and charisms given to you.
- **Holy Week:** Follow in Jesus's footsteps to the Cross and discover how you can love him well through each stage of the Passion and Resurrection.

Friday - April 4
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm - Church

Transformational Stations

EXPERIENCING JESUS PASSION

Join us on a transformative journey through different stations to experience the emotions and events that Jesus went through. Read and contemplate the corresponding scripture to be inspired by His strength and resilience.

**As You walk through the church
you will experience the:**

- Painful Thorns
- Nail of Sin
- The Bitter Vinegar
- Distracting Dice
- Remember Me
- The New Covenant
- The Light of the World

Seder

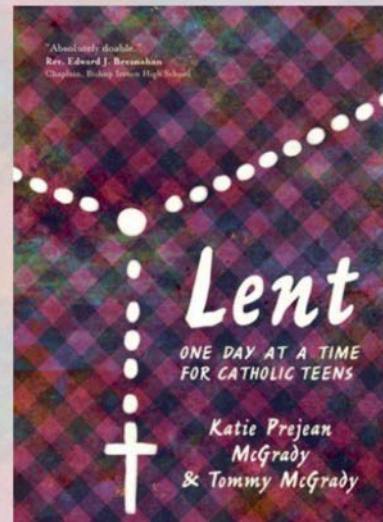
A SALVATION HISTORY
TUESDAY, APRIL 15 - 6:30 PM

SIGN UP IS REQUIRED



Join us for a very special Seder Meal. Those gathered will engage in the rituals associated with the Passover meal Jesus shared with his disciples, the traditional foods and the meanings behind them will be presented, and an ancient song of deliverance will be sung. The meal will end with Holy Communion, pointing to the Lamb who has slain for us on the cross.

TEENS - LET'S connect



Sunday Mornings
9:30 am
YM classroom

Each Sunday, we'll give you three simple challenges based on a passage from one of the gospels to direct you through the week. You'll focus on building your prayer life, making intentional sacrifices, and giving of yourself in some way.

Be sure to bring:

- Your bible
- journal

Dates to
REMEMBER

March 2, Sunday - *"Wilderness Within"* Class begins 9:30 am

Teen Class Let's Connect, 9:30 am

March 5 Ash Wednesday – Mass with distribution ashes – Noon & 6 pm

March 7, Friday - Mass, Stations of the Cross (WWP) & Light Lunch, Noon

March 14, Friday - Silhouette Stations of the Cross (Teens) & Dinner, 7pm

March 21, Friday - Stations of the Cross (KofC), Holy Communion & Light Lunch, Noon

March 28, Friday - Stations of the Cross (Parish Council), Holy Communion & Light Lunch, Noon

April 4, Friday - Mass, Stations of the Cross (Altar Society) & Light Lunch, Noon

Knights of Columbus Fish Fry, 4 - 7 pm

Transformational Stations 4 - 7 pm

April 11, Friday - Stations of the Cross (Anchor Prayer), Holy Communion & Light Lunch, Noon

April 13, Palm Sunday

Taize Prayer, 7 pm

April 15, Tuesday - Mass & Seder Meal, 6 pm

April 17 - Holy Thursday, 4 pm

April 18 - Good Friday Service, 3 pm

April 19 - Easter Vigil, 8 pm

April 20 - Easter Sunday, 11 am

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

March 7, Noon – Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Communion – led by Walking with Purpose

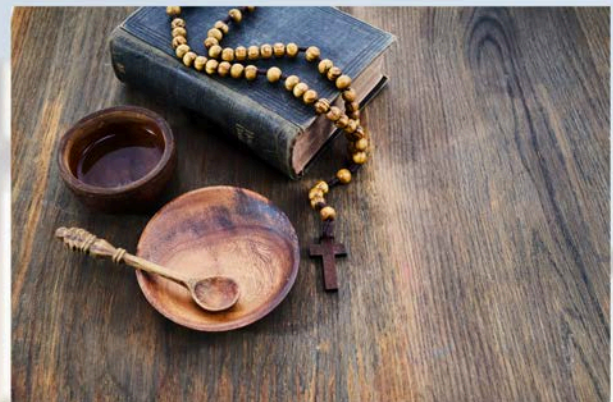
March 14, 7 pm – Silhouette Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Communion – led by our Youth.

March 21, Noon, Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Communion led by the Knights of Columbus.

March 28, Noon, Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Communion – led by the Pastoral Council.

April 4, Noon – Stations of the Cross followed by Holy Communion – led by the Altar Society.

April 11, Noon – First Friday Mass followed by Stations of the Cross – led by Anchor Prayer Group.



YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR:

LENTEN LUNCHES

EVERY FRIDAY AFTER
STATIONS OF THE CROSS
IN THE CHURCH HALL

You will be provided a booklet for each session

- lite lunch
- opening prayer & sharing
- reflection & sharing
- closing prayer

Please include the following in your Daily Prayers

Lorin Albin
 Bernadette Baer
 Margaret Bryan
 Ronnie Blankenship
 Matthew Bowles
 Pat Caccamo
 Raybeth Durham
 Fr. Chapin Engler
 Maria Franco
 Peggy Friedrichson
 Dr. Billy Garcia
 MaryLu Geiger
 Kyle Geiger
 Kylena Harless
 Johnathan Harding
 Kenna Johnston
 Patricia Gupton
 Wylie Rae Henson
 Nancy Larkin
 Jim Lintz
 Tanya Marx
 Lisa Mendoza
 Joshua Poorman
 Sara Poorman
 Teresa Settle
 Agnes Tokarski

	weekend Feb 22-23	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	2,511.00	29,875.63	31,000.00
Loose Offertory	272.00	1,443.12	1,600.00
Maintenance	<u>5.00</u>	<u>609.55</u>	<u>500.00</u>
Total Contributions	2,788.00	31,928.30	33,100.00
DWC: Disaster Relief Collections	4,299.00	4,299.00	-
Attendance:	4pm: 59	11am: 116	

March Ministry Schedule						
Date/Time	Lector	Extraordinary Minister	Greeter	Livesteam	Altar Server	Counter
Mar 1 4 pm	M. Tinio	K. Bailey- V. Manley T. Byron	Bisaha's		C. Pace	Pace
Mar 2 11 am	M. Flanigan	J. Lintz - R. Modena	TBA	W. Picknally	TBA	
Mar 5 Noon	G. Boggess	M. Flanigan - L. Wyatt - J. Lintz	TBA		M. Shay	
Mar 5 6 pm	D. LaMothe	M. Flanigan - D. Richardson	TBA		T. Byron	
Mar 8 4 pm	M. Gaspersich	T. Marx - M. Marx - C. Pace	J. Gaspersich		L Kessinger	LaMothe
Mar 9 11 am	D. LaMothe	D. Richardson -	S. Neri	W. Picknally		

Music for
 March 1 & 2, 2025
 Celtic Mass

Entrance: G766
 "City of God"

Presentation of Gifts: G751
 "Servant Song"

Communion: G728

"Eye Has Not Seen"

Closing Hymn: G835

"They'll Know We are Christians"

Mass Readings Year C
 on pg. 664
 Word & Eucharist

Responsorial Psalm 92
 Lord it is Good to Give Thanks to You

STAFF

Pastor: Fr. Sebastian Devasya
 sdevasya@dwc.org

Office Manager: Kim Hickman
 khickman@sacredheartprinceton.org

Secretary: Laura Wyatt
 lwyatt@sacredheartprinceton.org

Religious Education: Laura Wyatt
 lwyatt@sacredheartprinceton.org

Pastoral Ministries & Anchor
 Prayer Group: Gina Boggess
 gina@sacredheartprinceton.org

Youth Ministry: Lorin Albin
 lorinjalbin@gmail.com

In case of emergency and priest is needed, please call:

The Princeton Parish Office
 (304) 425-3664

Bluefield Parish Office
 (304) 327-5623

Kim Hickman
 (304) 920-2440

In case of illness: Please call the parish office to let us know if you, a family member, or a parishioner is sick. We can place your name on the prayer list. If requested, Fr. Sebastian will arrange for distributing Holy Communion in the home.

Nursing homes, rehabilitation centers and anyone who is hospitalized are not permitted to contact the church. If someone you know is in the hospital, please call the church office.

In case of serious or life threatening sickness or the actively dying: The church should be contacted as soon as possible. People deserve the opportunity to confess their sins, profess their faith, be anointed, and receive Holy Communion – the foretaste and pledge of eternal life. PLEASE don't wait until after the person is unconscious or so sedated that he or she cannot communicate. It is imperative with current situations, that there be enough time for Fr. to go through the appropriate protocol to visit the actively dying.