

SHARE:

[Join Our Email List](#)



One faith community, two worship sites

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Have
Faith
in
GOD

"Christ Jesus who died—
more than that, who was
raised to life—is at the
right hand of God and is
also interceding for us."

Romans 8:34:

It is no surprise there are many more people in need of our help during this difficult time. Our food pantry was open on Friday, March 26 and we served an exceptionally large number

of clients. During this time of uncertainty, we are being called to do whatever we can to bring a little comfort to those less fortunate. Needless to say, the food pantry shelves are nearly bare heading into Holy Week. There are many who depend on us for an Easter meal when we open our pantry doors again on April 10. If you are able to donate any non-perishable item, we would be very grateful. Someone will be watching the rectory doors so you may drop off any time during the day.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Food Pantry Needs

Laundry soap

Cereal

Pasta sauce

Canned fruit

Toilet paper

*Please drop off items outside the rectory door. We will have someone pick them up.

If you cannot get to a grocery store but would like to help...a donation is always acceptable.

Thank you in advance for your extra support!

**Our Pantry is open the 2nd & 4th
Friday from 1-3pm**

Holy Week Guide

Dear Friends,

I pray this finds you healthy.

Believe it or not, Holy Week is just around the corner! Although this year's entrance into our Lord's passion is more unique than ever, our situation invites us to ask, "Lord, how do we respond in the midst of our current realities?" The Lord is asking for generous hearts from His flock once again.

One way our St. John Paul II Office has responded is by offering an at-home resource for Holy Week. This 43 page guide includes Catholic rituals and practical suggestions for you, your families, and those you serve. Between communal prayers, reflections, hymns, and even movie options, this guide should aid you and your people to dive deep into this most holy of weeks. You can download the at-home guide below:

[Click here to access the online guide](#)

Christ's peace to each of you,

Pete Burds
St. John Paul II Office for the New Evangelization
Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Monday inspiration from Fr. Ed



As we head into Holy Week, we received a number of questions from our parishioners. We cannot answer them all but will attempt to address a few for you today:

- **Question:** Why were we not able to receive palms this past Sunday?
- **Answer:** The Archbishop forbid distribution of palms through drive-up services or other creative ideas, He asked that we hold them until a later date when a proper celebration can occur.
- **Question:** Can I view Sunday mass online?
- **Answer:** Yes, Fr. Ed celebrates mass each weekend which is posted on the St. Thomas and St. Clare websites and facebook pages. The links are at the bottom of this email.
- **Question:** Why can't we have a mass in the parking lot from our cars?
- **Answer:** The Archbishop has asked that no masses be celebrated in parking lots. People should stay safe at home and view mass online through the many options that exist. In addition, sound and other logistics would be difficult to address.
- **Question:** Why is St. Thomas not offering drive up confessions like other churches?
- **Answer:** The Archbishop has provided general absolution for all, removing the need for face to face confessions at this time. He is also allowing each parish to determine if the risk of drive-up confessions is acceptable. We have decided to keep Fr. Ed safe and not provide this service at this time.
- **Question:** How many people are attending the St. Thomas/St. Clare mass each weekend that is being recorded? Can I come?
- **Answer:** The mass is closed to the public at this time. There are only 6 people in attendance and they all stay more than 6 feet apart (except for Fr. Ed and the lecture on the altar). These 6 people provide the music, they read scripture, record the mass and ensure everyone follows strict health guidelines.
- **Question:** Who is receiving these emails?
- **Answer:** As of right now, we are sending these emails to every email address we have on record in our St. Thomas database. In the coming months, we will only send these emails and other communications to parish

members who provided their updated St. Thomas census information and reaffirmed membership. As of today, approximately 700 of the 1300 member families returned their census. If you have not returned your census and wish to continue receiving communications from St. Thomas, there is still time. Feel free to send updated contact information to the rectory via US mail or email your information to starectory@saintthomaswaterford.org

We are working to enhance your experience

Although Holy Week services will not be open to the public, we will be offering live streaming of all Holy Week services!! This is new!!!. The link to the website is below and if you go there on the given day and time listed below and navigate to the NEWS tab, you will find a link to the live streaming video. A recording will be available afterwards as well:

- Holy Thursday - live at 7:00 pm
- Good Friday - live at 3:00 pm
- Saturday Easter Vigil - live at 8:00 pm
- Easter Sunday - live at 9:30 am

[Visit our St. Thomas website:](#)

[Visit our St. Clare website:](#)

[St. Thomas Facebook page](#)

[St. Clare Facebook page:](#)

St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Clare of Assisi parishes
Waterford and Wind Lake, WI.