



*From the Desk of Father Peter*

*Jesus is with Us*

*Dear Parishioners,*

*It is my sincere hope that you and your loved ones are safe and healthy during these difficult times of Covid-19, which is now becoming our new normal until a vaccine is found.*



*We must remember that although we are being asked to distance ourselves physically from each other, we are joined deeply in faith to our sisters and brothers. We have taped and labeled the pews and floor to six foot increments. We have put away our missalettes and hymnals for a moment as our readings for the weekend Sacred Scriptures can be found in your bulletin. In my letter to all parishioners, I provided instructions for receiving Communion, wearing masks and keeping social distance in and around the church building. There are also offertory boxes; one in the middle aisle and one at the two end aisles of the church for you to put in your offertory. If there is more than one envelope, they can all go in together.*

*Each weekend when we gather as a community of faith to worship and celebrate the Eucharist, we encounter the comforting presence of our Heavenly Father both in the words of the Gospel and in the reception of the Eucharist. Let us make this moment a time of joy for our parish so that it may be less stressful. Wearing masks, I know can sometimes feel uncomfortable and it eliminates the*

*universal language of smiling. Singing may be restricted which many of us will miss. The celebration of the Eucharist will be within an hour.*

*Communicating these conflicting feelings is important to make everyone more comfortable with the restrictions that we must endure and embrace for this “new normal” period.*

*Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be done by appointment ONLY.*

*For those who cannot be with us yet, I would encourage you to join us for our weekend celebration of the Eucharist as it will continue to be live-streamed at 10:00 AM Sunday on our parish Facebook page. Additionally, if you can, I encourage you to attend our weekday morning Masses at 8:15 AM.*

*I would also ask, your circumstances permitting, that you consider continuing your financial support of our parish. With the suspension of our regular offertory collection by the Ushers, I encourage you to please place your offertory collection, as mentioned previously, in the designated boxes found in the middle aisle as well as the two end aisles. For those unable to return to Mass in Church just yet, please know you can continue to drop your offering through the mail slot in the front door at the Parish Office or you can mail it in.*

*The impact of the virus on the elderly and those with health issues reminds us that Christ calls us to take care of the sick. The chance to demonstrate our love and respect for them is a gift from God, and when wearing a face mask it shows that we all care for each other.*

*Thank you for all that you do for our parish. We will, as a community of faith, emerge from these challenges provided that we, as the apostles did on the Sea of Galilee (Matthew 8:23-27) when they were terrified, place our hope and trust in our heavenly Father.*



*I remain yours in service of Christ,*

*Fr. Peter Enyan-Boadu*