

Dear St. Sava Flock, Friends, Kumovi, and Visitors To Our Site:

“Watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong..” (1 Cor 16: 13)

“Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you...I will uphold you with my victorious right hand” (Is. 41: 10)

The first quote is from St. Paul’s 1st Letter to the people of Corinth; the last is from the Book of Isaiah. I share them with you because all of us are shaken by what is happening in and around our parish communities, and across our Country with the CO-VID 19 pandemic, and Holy Scripture is the BEST place to find comfort and consolation in such times.

Let me begin by saying that all of us who serve in our St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Parish of McKeesport-Duquesne, Pa., **affirm with our hearts** the ‘Spirit’ of the quotes from above. We understand the concern, the fears, the plight of those at risk, and of those living in our communities. We lift all of you in prayer, and ask that you do the same for all of us! Having said that, please know that **our Church will be OPEN** for the Holy Pre-Sanctified Liturgies and the Divine Liturgies for those who wish to come and bask in the sanctity of God’s House, and to receive the most Precious Body and Blood – the Holy Eucharist – of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ.

If you feel that you cannot be with us in person, we understand; if you are, in any way, “under the weather”, PLEASE stay home and rest, and do what is necessary to get better. If you are in need of any help because of your personal condition, **PLEASE CALL US at 412-672-1872!** (If you cannot attend Church, we encourage you to go online and visit anyone of the following sites for live-streaming services:

The Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Cathedral of Pittsburgh
The All Saints Greek Orthodox Church of Canonsburg
Goarch.org or OCA.org

One of the true ‘gems’ of our Holy Orthodox Faith is that each one of us has a personal responsibility to examine him/her self and do what he/she thinks is best, not only for their family, but also for the Body of Christ, and this is certainly true in this difficult time we are in.

In recognition of the dangers this virus presents, not only have all our surfaces in Church been washed and sanitized, but also our Pew Bibles and Liturgy Books, have been removed until further notice. We have cancelled our Fish Fry and Nut-roll baking as a precaution. Hand sanitizers are present both upstairs and in the Church hall for anyone to use, and we ask that you do so!

We ask that you take this valuable time we all have been given to grow stronger in our Faith, and to share that Love and Joy that only our Lord gives us – and that you keep us in your daily prayers, as we do all of you!

Very Rev. Stavrofor Stevo Rocknage and the St. Sava Parish Council