

Dear friends.

Happy New Year!

The distance to which this pandemic has forced us has not made us forget you. Your joys, sorrows, toils and hopes are also our own, and are nourishing our prayer for you. We trust that the Lord watches over you and guards you, even when you do not see the signs of it.

If you cannot physically participate in our Sunday Mass, I invite you to join us in our live-streamed Mass every Sunday at 11:00 am on **Facebook**. (Please search: “**St. Peter’s Italian Church Los Angeles**”). During the Mass we pray for our Parish Community, that we may remain faithful and strong in our Faith and Love, and that our weakest members, those who are sick, may feel the closeness of the Lord in this time of trial.

While waiting to meet again, we remain in communion of prayer also on Thursday evening, in the same Facebook place, when you may join us for an hour of Adoration. Without this sustained communion of prayer, we run the risk of losing the joy of encounter, and the taste of prayer in the Parish.

I encourage you to live in fullness these difficult days rediscovering our fragility and recognizing that we are children, in need of the Father's help. We are fragile but in good hands! God has not spared us the storm, but sustains us within the storm. He does not save us from suffering, but through our suffering. He does not protect us from pain, but **through our pain**.

Finally, this is also the opportune time to remember that we need one another and that we have responsibilities to others. Please don't forget that **your church is sustained only by your contributions** which are now greatly reduced by the diminished Sunday attendance. You can keep us financially alive with your help from home by mail, or through this website page where it is indicated to donate. I thank you for your love and generosity!

Fr. Louis Piran