



St. Mary of the Angels Anglican Church

Founded 1918 – Hollywood's Historic "Little Church Around the Corner"

Tuesday, July 14, 2020

St Bonaventure, Bishop, Confessor & Doctor

Beloved in the Lord,

As you may already be aware, the Governor of California and the Los Angeles County Department of Health have suspended indoor worship services until further notice. While that guidance is more likely directed at larger congregations, there is currently no exception for smaller churches. **As of today, we are suspending all worship services at St. Mary of the Angels - there will be no Masses this Sunday.**

At St. Mary's we have an unusual situation in which our church facility is large, but our average congregation size is quite small. This has allowed us to more than adequately socially distance. That combined with our other safety precautions (we far exceed the government's guidelines in every category) has provided worshipers a significantly safer space than supermarkets and other business that have remained open to the public. It is unfortunate, but the various government agencies must issue blanket regulations that do not take into account specific organizations.

Like before, we will evaluate the situation on a weekly basis and will resume worship services as soon as possible – with safety precautions in place. Unlike before, we are already prepared and resuming Masses should be a quick process.

At present we are evaluating the possibility of offering a livestream Mass via an internet platform such as Zoom. Those efforts are in very early stages and will require considerable coordination in order to produce a high-quality broadcast. We lack significant human and other resources, so doing so at this time may be too great an endeavour. I encourage you to write to me directly with any feedback you may have to offer. Please also be sure to check the parish website as we are updating it frequently.

Know that I am praying for each one of you during this confusing and frightening time. God will see us through this pandemic, and we will be stronger than ever.

Your shepherd I remain,

Canon Bower

*The Rev'd Canon William Bower, SSC
Priest-in-Charge
St. Mary of the Angels, Hollywood*