



The Community of
St. John Bosco

November 12, 2020

Parish Family,

I found out late yesterday morning (November 11) that one of our neighboring priests tested positive for the Covid-19 virus. Thanks be to God, Fr. Josh is not showing any serious symptoms, but I ask you to please keep him and everyone who has the coronavirus in your prayers.

Unfortunately, this news affects us. For the past couple months, some of the priests of the district have been gathering for meals a couple times per week, and on Friday, I shared a meal with Fr. Josh. Although he didn't show any symptoms, our time together could have very possibly exposed me to an incubating, non-symptomatic spreader.

While I am feeling fine, out of an abundance of concern for your health, and in obedience to the CDC and County Board of Health guidelines, I should quarantine and monitor for symptoms for two weeks from the point of exposure. That means I need to remain hidden until the evening of November 20th.

During that time, I am unable to celebrate Mass publicly. However, for all the weekday Masses, I will continue to offer Mass for the scheduled intentions, and I will make the stream available on our parish facebook page. For this coming weekend (which, God willing, should be our only weekend where I am unavailable), I already lined up guest presiders, and I promise you that you are in good and holy hands with Fr. Mike Woost and Fr. Mick Joyce.

Please pray for me during these next 8 days, and be assured that I will be praying for you. I will admit that I am frustrated by this whole ordeal, our collective efforts since re-opening have prevented mass spreading, and that is why I am continuing to exercise caution. We will be back together soon.

God Bless and Keep You,

Fr. Matt Byrne