

St. Philomena Catholic Church

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Valued Patron of St. Philomena:

Missing all of you, I greet you with the warmest regard and fervent hope that you are all in good health and safely protected during this global pandemic.

Since the March 11, 2020 lockdown and mandated stay at home order, our daily interactions and Sunday worships suddenly stopped and therefore, the benefit of hearing in person the Word of God through the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist likewise came to a halt.

In spite of this, I am happy to inform you that I have been livestreaming Sunday Mass celebration at 10:00 AM and intermittently, a daily mass at 2:00 PM. If you have not participated yet, I encourage you visit our Facebook (stphilomenachurchhawaii) or to the St Philomena Parish website at www.stphilomenahawaii.org.

Also, while most of the church's scheduled normal and regular activities were cancelled, the parish continued to extend the needed sacramental ministries on a case by case basis. Because our church remained in operations, regular daily parish expenses, such as utilities, payroll and other operational bills were still incurred.

It is on this premise that I come knocking at your door today to please continue to bestow your kindness. I know that deep in your warm hearts, you have been holding your donations until you are able again to personally participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and other church activities. Unfortunately, our parish is in dire need of your support to sustain its ability to perform and extend its services to spread the word of God and spiritual comforts at this time.

Truly because of these reasons, I humbly ask that you bring your contributions to Mass or donate online at www.stphilomenahawaii.org or at www.catholicahawaii.org/offertory. You also can mail your check donations to St. Philomena Church, 3300 Ala Laulani Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818.

At last, I am excited that Bishop Larry Silva has announced that Catholic Churches on Oahu can resume Mass services on the condition that proper Coronavirus restrictions and safety precautions are followed. The Diocese has issued a standard guideline to assist each parish in the re-opening process. The directive is to implement the appropriate Covid-19 mitigation plans and procedures, like wearing of masks, social distancing, use of hand sanitizers and cleaning and disinfecting common areas. St. Philomena is preparing the church for the resumption of public worship on May 30 and 31, 2020.

Mahalo nuiloa for your continued support, as well as kokua. I pray that you and your family are blessed with comfortable resilience and peaceful strength during this period of uncertainty. Stay healthy and please take good care. I look forward and am very eager to seeing you once again in church.

May the blessings of God the Father Almighty, Jesus Christ the Son and the Holy Spirit descend upon you.

Your St. Philomena Parish Shepherd,

Reverend Paul Dong Min Li