

**COVID – 19 DIRECTIVES ISSUED BY BISHOP RICE FOR THE
SPRINGFIELD/CAPE GIRARDEAU DIOCESE
EFFECTIVE: MARCH 13, 2020**

Bishop Edward Rice has directed that all non-liturgical parish functions be cancelled until further notice due to health concerns.

At Our Lady of the Ozarks, this includes the St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Auction, PSR classes, Wednesday coffee and donuts, Pivotal Players, RCIA as well as all PCCW and Knights of Columbus activities.

Mass and Stations of the Cross will take place as scheduled.

Although Mass will be offered on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday:

1. A general dispensation is offered to anyone in the Diocese of Springfield-Cape Girardeau who does not want to take the risk of attending Mass, regardless of age.
2. In addition, anyone 60 years (CDC designation) or older **should not** attend Mass as well as anyone who has underlying medical issues or who are not feeling well, no matter how mild the symptoms.
3. Communion to the homebound has also been halted.
4. The office will be open for 1 hour after Mass.

Those who make use of the dispensation are encouraged to watch Mass via television or via Livestream on the Internet. In addition, there is a beautiful tradition of making an **Act of Spiritual Communion**.

Trust in the Lord. We will get through this.