

March 18, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

May our Lord Jesus Christ, Who Is our Peace, comfort and strengthen you during these troublesome times.

I wish to update you on how our Saints Constantine and Helen Church will function for the next few weeks or until further notice. Our church and staff are determined to comply with all directives issued by our Archdiocese and Metropolis; along with national, state, and local health departments to protect our community and prevent spread of the coronavirus.

Services: Worship services will take place as scheduled. However, in compliance with His Eminence's directive, no one will be permitted into the church except the priest, an altar assistant, the chanter, and any other essential staff. Participation in the service will be possible only through our website, at <https://www.stcons.org/video-streaming>. The Weekly Bulletin will continue to be distributed electronically each Friday, listing the services for the coming week.

All other meetings and activities, including Sunday School, Choir, etc. will not be held until further notice.

Church Office: We are closing the church office until further notice. However, Annette or Maria may be present during regular office hours to answer calls or return messages. Annette has 24/7 access to our office email at [stcons2@gmail.com](mailto:stcons2@gmail.com) and can access our answering machine remotely and notify me when needed. The church office phone number is 734.525.6789. In emergency situations, please call me directly at 248.330.3177.

Memorial Services/Funerals: Although we will not have memorial services with koliva, you can still submit the names of your departed loved ones for the priest to read during the Sunday Divine Liturgies. You can also make arrangements for private memorial services at the cemetery with only the priest and immediate family. Funerals will continue to take place in the church but should only consist of the immediate family and pallbearers (under 50 people). I would also recommend not doing a Trisagion service at the funeral home on the evening before.

Appointments: I am canceling or postponing all nonessential meetings and appointments. If you are showing no signs of illness, you may make an appointment for confession by contacting the church office or by emailing me at [frteodor@mail.com](mailto:frteodor@mail.com). I will make pastoral visitations when possible or permitted. Please note that hospitals and nursing homes are limiting even clergy access to patients and residents.

Hellenic Cultural Center: The Hellenic Cultural Center remains closed, but staff may be present during regular office hours to answer calls or return messages. Any visits to the facility are by appointment only. The HCC phone number is 734.525.3550, email is [helleniccc@gmail.com](mailto:helleniccc@gmail.com)

Resources: In an era of fake news and unreliable social media posts, I recommend that you obtain any information regarding the coronavirus, from the following credible websites:

<https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/>

<https://health.macombgov.org/Health-Programs-DC-Coronavirus>

<https://www.cdc.gov>

If you wish to pray the Lenten worship services from home, I recommend that you familiarize yourself with Ages Initiatives Digital Chant Stand at <http://www.agesinitiatives.com/dcs/public/dcs/dcs.html>

Select the current day and the worship service you wish to pray. They offer all our worship services in both Greek and English. You can access the website from your computer, smartphone, or tablet. Our church has been using Ages Initiatives for several years and will continue doing so for Lenten and Holy Week services.

I hope that you found this email helpful and informative. Stay tuned for future news and updates.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Teodor