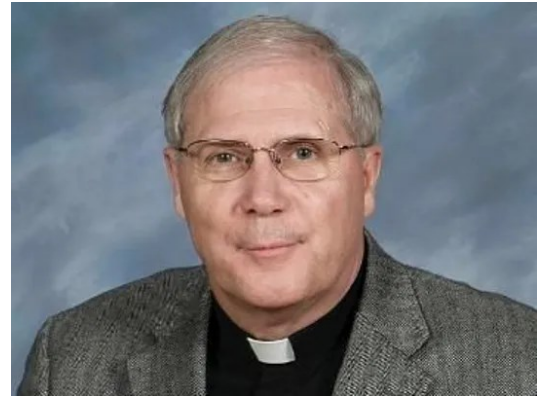


ST. AUGUSTIN PARISH

A MEMO FROM FR. VINCE ROSONKE

Bishop Joensen is allowing our pastor, Fr. Pisut, to take some significant time to attend to his personal health. My name is Fr. Vince Rosonke. I am newly retired and spent the past 17 years as Pastor of St. Boniface Parish in Waukee. Bishop Joensen has appointed me to be administrator of St. Augustin Parish in the interim. We want to continue to pray for Fr. Pisut's ongoing health.



In the meantime, we have a national crisis that has unsettled us all. The Diocese of Des Moines has set guidelines that follow our government's decisions to severely limit gatherings for the next several weeks. Therefore, there are no masses being held here for the weekends as well as weekdays. The adoration chapel remains open. We will keep you well informed as the days pass. We will be sending you regular communications through emails and newsletters. As our parish youth are out of schools for weeks, I have asked our school and faith formation leaders to keep in touch with our kids and families. You have a great staff here and we will continue to minister to you in any way we can. Our national crisis does not preclude personal or family crisis. Don't hesitate to call our parish office or to reach out to me personally. We want to be here for you. I'll make my contact information available to all of you.

If your faith has not been tested recently, we can plan on it now. It's going to be rough times ahead. God does not send these as tests or punishments. Sometimes life is just life, and terrible things happen to us. Our faith is meant to help find meaning in times of peril. Even more importantly, the Christian is called to reach out to others. How we do that might seem daunting in present circumstances. We can't leave our most vulnerable parishioners and fellow citizens to fend for themselves. So, do what you can to keep in contact with people in your orbit that might need a call or helping hand. Our parish staff is also equipped to know of situations our resources can be of benefit.

I hope to get to know you better in the weeks ahead (hopefully sooner rather than later). We all look forward to a sense of normalcy that will eventually come. Stay strong everybody!

Fr. Vince

NATIONAL GUIDANCE

As of this writing, the national guidance we are receiving is that we are not to allow ANY people gatherings that exceed 10 people. We therefore are not going to be able to offer daily Mass or weekend Mass until at least April 1st. We will also not be able to host religious education classes, or the Saint Thomas Academy Home School organization during the day. If you are aware of any other organizations that have plans to meet here, by all means let us know! We are contacting every group that is on the schedule to make sure that they don't meet here with numbers of people that exceed the federally mandated limit.

PARISH OFFICE & CONTACT INFORMATION

The parish offices will remain open throughout the lockdown period. Cindy Sullivan or a volunteer will be answering the phone, fielding questions, and making themselves available. In addition to the general parish number (515) 255-1175, you may contact Cindy, Father Rosonke, or Randy directly at the numbers and email addresses listed below:

- Father Rosonke
frvinard@gmail.com
(515) 778-9370
- Randy Mudge
business.mgr@staugustin.org
(515) 745-0102
- Cindy Sullivan
cindy@staugustin.org
(641) 330-5134

SACRAMENTS

Weddings and funerals can still be held, but must still comply with the 10 person limit.

CLASSES

Our Director of Religious Education Janis Falk is currently working to put together some home based curriculum and tools that will enable students to continue their formation process.

Our grade school campus is now closed. The faculty and administration of the school has been working feverishly to get lesson plans and curriculum together that can be delivered electronically from the web, or through web-based interactive sessions. As of right now, we anticipate the school being closed until Tuesday, April 14th.

24 HOUR ADORATION CHAPEL

Our perpetual adoration chapel will NOT have daily Mass, but will remain open 24 hours per day. Given that, we still must comply with the 10 person rule.

MASSES ONLINE

If you would still like to attend area Mass through the web, we are providing the instructions below, which will afford you the opportunity see Mass live or to see it after the fact, since it will be recorded and available after completion. The locations providing internet or TV based liturgy are listed as follows:

- The **Basilica of St. John** provides a livestream online of its daily Masses.
- St. Anthony Church carries daily and weekend Masses here:
- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX4etPjubIBIPOi7c3zSblg>
- <https://www.facebook.com/181757938529521/>
- <https://venue.streamspot.com/70f5b857>
- Christ the King Church livestreams all of its Masses. [Check here](#) for Mass times and the livestream.
- St. Cecilia Parish in Panora records Mass on Sunday and is aired at 7 p.m. on the local channel, through Panora Telco channel 900 via Fiberoptic.
- Sunday Mass is carried at 8 a.m. in the Des Moines area on KCWI, channel 23.
- **Holy Trinity Church** in Des Moines
- **Ss. Peter & Paul** in Atlantic

Read the latest information released from the Bishop's Office : [Pastoral Message Updated 3-17-20.pdf](#)

Yours in Christ,
Father Vince Rosonke