



St. Catherine of Siena Parish

Denver, July 15th, 2020

Dear Parishioners!

Again this year we celebrated July 4th, perhaps some surrounded by family or friends, others in the solitude of their home or in the hospital environment. I especially prayed that day for peace and unity in America, for its political future and for the end of this pandemic. The Providence of God guides our history and we place ourselves in His hands.

While taking into account the current situation and health and safety measures, our beautiful parish is regaining its dynamism a little more:

- Holy Masses resumed in the church, from Tuesday to Sunday, at the usual times, with the limitation of 80 people. It is wonderful to see the faces so well-known and in good health! The Wednesday Mass is held especially for the elderly, 65 years and over.

- the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament returned to its 24 hours a day, seven days a week. During the day in the church, to facilitate access to the greatest number, and at night in the chapel, only for committed adorers.

- the Holy Father has granted us an Indulgence for our perpetual adoration. This gift encourages us to put the Lord at the center of our lives and to evoke vocations for committed adorers!

- Father Luke and I had the joy of conferring Confirmation of around 60 of our children and young adults. May they find the joy of being disciples of Jesus and his witnesses in this world!

- the groups are gradually resuming some activities, to ensure that those who can, may rediscover the joy of a living community, where Christ makes himself present in charity.

-we continue to receive your donation to celebrate Masses for your intentions.

I express again my gratitude to all our faithful parishioners who continue tithing in an envelope or through our website (<https://www.saintcatherine.us/DONATE>) and who donate to us in different ways. Your financial support is an encouragement to us.

The financial issue is a real concern for us. To save money, I have decided to close office hours on Fridays (Father Luc and I are always available, of course). On the other hand, the Missalets subscription will not be renewed. If you need, you may subscribe to "Magnificat" or "Living with Christ".

Given the impossibility of raising funds as we usually did, I formed a team to come up with short-term ideas. A TV for raffle, a gift from a parishioner, will be a good start. Thank you for being attentive to this initiative and everything to come. The aim is to raise funds, but also to give us a sense of community.

Another question that arises is the use of the school facilities. Obviously, it is a patrimony of our Parish and we have activities for religious education there on Saturdays and Sundays, but also in the evenings, during the weekdays. But we have a great potential there that we must explore for activities during the day: day care for kids, English or Spanish as a second language, vocational formation, sports, etc. The health situation is a real obstacle, but we will overcome it.

Finally, remember that on September 6th, 1921, Saint Catherine's School held its first sessions, in the basement of the Church, because the current building, began in 1923, was not completed until 1928. In September 2021 I would like to celebrate the centenary of the first class, by inviting alumni and parishioners to a convivial moment. I would be grateful to our elderly parishioners for sharing pictures of the school and the church before 1965. Please contact our office.

Let us entrust all these intentions to our Lord Jesus. Let us pray, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, that His Kingdom of love, justice and peace may reign in us and in the whole world.

Father Nilson Leal de Sá, C.B.
Pastor