March 19, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, we are thankful that our Metropolitan and the Patriarch himself have been proactive in mandating for the time being the ceasing of all liturgical services.  This has been done for the safety of our people and in keeping with State mandates.  This is the most responsible thing we can do, and this should be seen in the context of the care we should have for each other's welfare in the spirit of the Gospel.  The fact that we don't have services, however, doesn't mean that we cease praying.  Times of crisis are actually times when we need to intensify our prayer and not forget God.  For this reason I include below some links that offer the bilingual texts for the services that we would normally be celebrating during Great Lent.  The first link is for presanctified liturgy which is normally done on Wednesday evenings (we have been doing this at 5:00 pm at Assumption).  The next is for the Salutations to the Theotokos which we have been doing on Friday evenings at 7:00 pm.  The last one is for the Orthros of Sunday morning.

Presanctified Liturgy [http://www.agesinitiatives.com/dcs/public/dcs/p/s/2020/03/18/pl/gr-en/se.m03.d19.pl.pdf](http://www.agesinitiatives.com/dcs/public/dcs/p/s/2020/03/18/pl/gr-en/se.m03.d19.pl.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

Salutations [http://www.agesinitiatives.com/dcs/public/dcs/p/s/2020/03/20/co2/gr-en/se.m03.d21.co2.pdf](http://www.agesinitiatives.com/dcs/public/dcs/p/s/2020/03/20/co2/gr-en/se.m03.d21.co2.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

Matins [http://www.agesinitiatives.com/dcs/public/dcs/p/s/2020/03/22/ma/gr-en/se.m03.d22.ma.pdf](http://www.agesinitiatives.com/dcs/public/dcs/p/s/2020/03/22/ma/gr-en/se.m03.d22.ma.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

There are also live services that are offered at the following link: [https://www.goarch.org/live-broadcasts](https://www.goarch.org/live-broadcasts%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

I want to thank my brother priests Fr. Aaron Walker, Fr. Andrew George, Fr. Nicholas Lanzourakis, Fr. John Afendoulis and Fr. Theodore Toppses for their suggestions and for bringing these edifying links to my attention for your benefit.

May we all keep well and strong in our faith during this crisis.

Prayerfully,

Fr. Philip Zymaris