

Dear Parishioners of Sacred Heart Church,

I realize that it is the middle of the summer and this message is late in coming, but please allow me to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you who, in these difficult times, were able to contribute to our Easter Collection which was in the amount of \$30, 195.00. Needless to say, I was overwhelmed by your generosity. Holy Week, Easter Sunday and the entire Easter season were quiet times here at the parish. How different from the beautiful, prayerful liturgies, the wonderful music, the joyful initiation of our new members and above all, the celebration of the Lord's death and resurrection by our faith-filled community that we usually experience. To see your generous offerings coming to the Church on-line, in the mail and through the mail-slot of the door and knowing that they were sent with your prayers and good wishes meant so much to me.

I have to say that every week since this pandemic began, your contributions have helped to sustain the ongoing mission and ministry of this parish and your participation, even at a "distance" in the extraordinary life of this community has helped me and so many others to experience the "presence" of our Lord in many special ways.

I am also aware that your donations to our St. Vincent DePaul Center have brought comfort and relief to all those truly in need in our neighborhoods and I am certain that your kindness continues to be truly appreciated.

As we gather at Church for our limited Weekday and Sunday Masses or at home with loved ones to take part in live-stream liturgies and on-line prayer experiences, I feel that we are blessed to be together in so many ways and that the Sacred Heart of Jesus will always find a way to enfold us in His love and keep us safe and at peace in His care.

May God bless you always.

With sincere gratitude,

*Father John*