Dear (Parishioner Name-Personalize if Possible),

*“Be on your guard;*

This is a first for many of us. Working through our current circumstances is stressful and challenging, but I offer my thanks to you for your patience

*be courageous;*

*stand firm in the faith;*

as we get plans in place. As your Pastor, my primary role is to provide for the spiritual and pastoral needs of you, our parish faithful. (Parish name) is a beautiful community of faith and that will not change even if we are unable to be around each other physically for the time being.

*-1 Corinthians 16:13*

*be strong.”*

We will continue together in ministry, outreach and service, in Christ’s name as follows:

* *Daily Prayer* - Though we will no longer be able to have public Mass or large meetings, we will keep the church (or other location) open for prayer daily.  Please continue to pray for one another and please reach out to those who may be isolated or afraid.
* *Celebrating Mass* - I know that not having public Mass will be very difficult for many, but we know our faith will not be lost because people like you will keep the faith at home among families through other prayers and devotions. May we never again take the Eucharist for granted! Be assured that I, (and add any parish priests, deacons or religious on staff) will continue to celebrate daily the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass privately in the (Rectory chapel, or wherever private Mass is celebrated).

And, until we can resume our regular activities, please know you can still access Mass. (If your parish is live streaming Mass, state that here and how parishioners can access it. If you are not add this text – Our diocese is incredibly blessed with neighboring parishes that are livestreaming Mass and a Catholic radio station broadcasting Mass for the faithful to participate in at home. Please visit [www.dosp.org](http://www.dosp.org) and click the banner at the top of the screen that says “*Click here to find out how to watch or listen to the Mass at home.*”

* *Connecting with each other* - We encourage you to visit our website at (URL) and the website for the Diocese of St. Petersburg at [www.dosp.org](http://www.dosp.org) to find resources for prayer and formation, opportunities to access assistance or ways you can help. We will be adding new resources regularly, and we want to be the place our people can connect. Let’s work together to create opportunities for virtual events, prayer groups and idea sharing!

In these very difficult and unsettling times that require sacrifices of us all for the greater good, I want to assure you of my prayers through this all. Let’s move forward together cautiously and prayerfully with what God has put before us. Please remember, we are called to pray, serve and give, even in times of difficulty. Take care of your families and loved ones above all else, but please do not forget that our ability to continue offering ministry here at (name of parish) is tied to the generosity of our people. If you are able, please continue making offertory gifts either by online options at (URL) or you can mail a check to our parish office at (address).

Thank you for your continued charity which binds our faith community as we promote the Gospel and build His Kingdom. You remain in my prayers.

In the Peace of Christ,

Pastor