

A message from the desk of Father Carlino

The Corona Virus has altered life as we once knew it. Times are now very different.

As I am sure you know, the Corona virus has also caused a financial crisis in many parts of our society, including our Churches. As your Church, we depend on our parishioners to attend Mass on a regular basis, and with that, parishioners sending in or dropping off their weekly offertory collections. *Unfortunately that has not always happened in the past several weeks.*

Before the Corona Virus, St. John's average weekly collection was \$11,500 but now it is an average of \$6,500. St. Anthony's average weekly collection prior to the Corona Virus was \$4,600 but now it is at \$3,900. These diminished numbers are causing a cash-flow hardship as we struggle to maintain our ministries and facilities for when we do return back to normal. *Every week that passes without a normal offertory collection puts our parishes at greater financial risk.*

You may have seen the article entitled *A New Way to Give* that was in last week's Evangelist. Bishop Scharfenberger has asked the Diocesan Stewardship and Development Office to assist families with making it easy for them to make their offertory gifts to their parish. You can now donate to your parish online. At St. John's you can go to www.SJEChurch.com and sign up for e-giving. St. Anthony's and St. John's parishioners can also go to the diocesan website rcda.org. Click on the "**Donate now**" tab and that will take you to the *Be the Light of Christ* page. Click on the "*Parish Offertory*" tab and follow the prompts from there. Under the donation amount, please be sure to choose our parish, be it St. Anthony's or St. John's. Parishioners can also mail their donations directly to the parish office or drop them off there as well. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the parish office.