

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



Here is something provocative to make you think: Who is right and who is wrong?

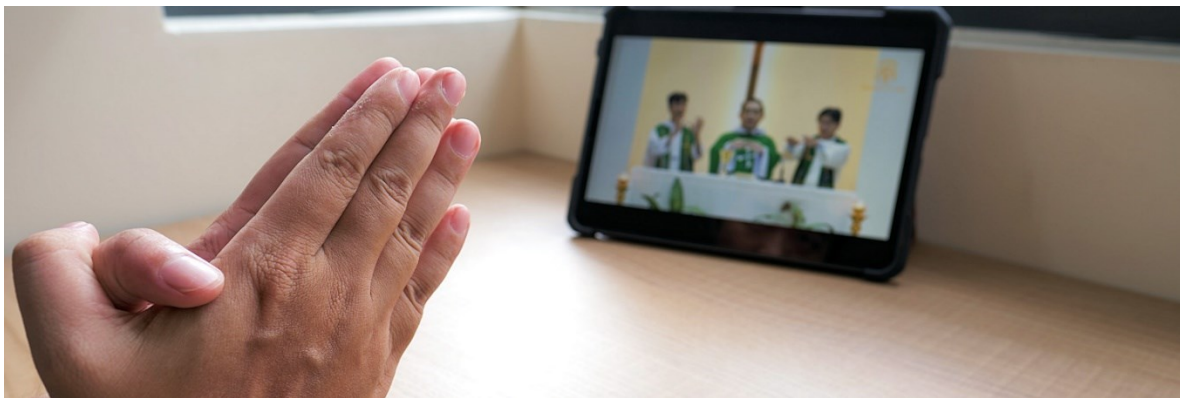
The following reflection about “comfortable Masses,” so to speak, was written by a Jesuit priest:

Streaming the Eucharist online for the world to watch or broadcasting it on television is an abomination, akin to showing video of people eating a meal to starving people. A video experience of the Eucharist might have value if it makes people hunger for the real thing, but as an alternative for showing up to church, it is the ecclesial equivalent of substituting a cooking channel for a dinner with family or friends. Thus it is time for the church to tell priests to stop broadcasting the Eucharist.

Prior to the pandemic, watching the Mass on television was a rarity. Regular broadcasts were principally aimed at shut-ins and the sick. I support continuing limited broadcasting to such parishioners as long as they are brought Communion from the parish Mass they had watched online. One pastoral response to the pandemic was to make the Eucharist available for watching online. But we have become so accustomed to online Masses that they are viewed as normal and appropriate. Many parishes continue to stream the Eucharist live even though the pandemic has passed. And the momentum is likely to continue. If not banned, online Masses may become even more common and people will simply stay home on Sunday mornings watching the Holy Mass in their beds, for instance.

Taking online the Body and Blood of Christ to their logical conclusion, people could try to receive Communion from the comfort of home. Bread and wine could be put in front of the screen, and the priest could consecrate them from afar. If God is powerful enough to change the bread and wine when it is on the altar a short distance from the priest, isn't God powerful enough to do it at a distance of thousands of miles? Miracles don't require proximity. But a fully remote Eucharist would be counter to the church's communal view of the Eucharist. It would see the Eucharist not as a communal meal but as individualistic nourishment. An online Eucharist puts us in our own bubble and separates us from community and place. It turns the church from a community of the disciples of Christ into an online delivery service, like Domino's Pizza. And this fact underlines one important thing: Streaming Masses online continues a pattern of not understanding the true meaning of the Eucharist. So curtailing the broadcasting of the Eucharist may cause pastoral pain for some, but the change will not deny the Eucharist to people; they don't have the Eucharist now. They only have an illusion of the Eucharist.

Personally, I wholeheartedly agree with this point of view. We cannot simply agree to disagree, because toleration is a dead end that settles nothing. Truth, on the other hand, is very patient; it is also irresistible, irrepressible, and persistent. It does not just go away. This is why we need to follow the Way, the Truth and the Life (Jn 14:6). In the end, those “hungry hearts” might thank us for making it right.



Fr. Slawek

APRIL 14, 2024



The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
Turning concern into action

We visit single mothers – We visit the elderly – We visit the working poor as well as those on social assistance or disability allowance -- We visit those who have suddenly fallen on hard financial times as well as those struggling over a longer period -- We visit people of any faith or race -- Quite simply, we visit anyone who is in need and request our assistance.

Thank you for your contributions to the Poor Box after Mass.

NEW BEGINNINGS

The Online Separated/Divorced Introductory Program offers both women and men a learning environment which is safe, welcoming and non-judgmental. The program provides 4 weeks of psycho-education, which assists and accompanies the separated/divorced in exploring grief, experiencing healing and renewing faith. The program resources include PowerPoint and time will be allocated for group discussion. We welcome people from all ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds.

Online Separated/Divorced Introductory Program: April 18, 2024 @ 7:00 pm

Register at: <https://nbb0424.eventbrite.ca/>

The Online Bereavement Introductory Program offers both women and men a learning environment which is safe, welcoming and non-judgmental. The program provides 4 weeks of psycho-education, which assists and accompanies the bereaved in exploring grief, experiencing healing and renewing faith. The program resources include PowerPoint and time will be allocated for group discussion. We welcome people from all ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds.

Online Bereavement Introductory Program: April 17, 2024 @ 7:00 pm

Register at: <https://nbb0424.eventbrite.ca/>



MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, April 16

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Noel Valerio req. by Maria Valerio.

Wednesday, April 17

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of David Emer req. by the Emer family.

Thursday, April 18

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Joseph DeLuca req. by Toni Fratarolli.

Friday, April 19

9 a.m. Private Intentions.

Saturday, April 20

4:30 p.m. Intentions of all Parishioners

Sunday, April 21

9 a.m. Repose of the soul of Anthony Wong req. by Josephine Cheung & family .

11 a.m. Intentions of Lucille Mizuno.



COFFEE & TEA & SNACKS SOCIAL

The Social will resume
Wednesday, April 17, 2024
After the 9 a.m. Mass
in the Parish Basement



ARE YOU MOVING? OR HAVE YOU MOVED ALREADY?

Please contact the parish office so your records can be updated.

