PANDEMIC RESPONSE LIST



Based on discussions with the TH541 Church Management and Leadership course at Saint Joseph's College of Maine

Pastoral/Evangelizing -

- Livestream Masses, if possible
- Create reflection videos about different prayer methods or scripture readings
- Begin weekly reflection posts on social media
- Have staff and regular volunteers of the parish to reach out to different parishioners, especially those who live alone or are isolated during this time
- Possibly establish tents in yards where the priest is available to listen to confessions from a safe distance
- Consider offering Eucharistic Adoration at varying times
- Host Zoom meetings for Bible study or different worship techniques that would typically be done in a group setting
- Possibly begin writing letters and cards to the sick and homebound of our community—a pen pal system of "Faithful Friends" connecting different generations together

Managerial -

- Have pastors or leaders of a ministry assign prayer partners among staff
- Update your parish website as it can play an important role in keeping the parishioners informed about what is going on in the parish and how they can continue their participation
- Establish several ways to communicate with the parishioners besides social media/website
 - There is the possibility that some older church members might not know how to use the Internet, so using mailers may be effective
- Host Zoom meetings weekly and individual meetings to check in on staff and see how they are doing spiritually, physically, and mentally
- Have the pastor find time to gather his parish council
 - During their meeting, they should speak about the immediate concerns of the parish.
 - After finalizing the meeting, the pastor should write a letter to his parishioners.
 - This letter should motivate, encourage, and inspire his flock to deeper prayer, trust, and hope. This letter can speak about the pastoral and financial concerns of the parish.

Financial -

- Set up online donation on your parish website
- Keep costs low (no A.C. / heat, only essential lights on, etc.)
- Communicate with the parishioners so that they can better understand the magnitude of the financial reduction and help accordingly depending on their situation
- Put together a ten-week assessment of expenditures to see what the minimum outlay of cash would be necessary to keep basic services and staff in place
- During the live streaming of Mass on Sunday, have an online offertory where people can click a link to give online during this time
- Reach out to continual donors to ask for their support, but also ask if they are in need of any specific prayers
- Post on your personal walls to ask for prayer intentions and donations during this time