

July 20, 2020

I had intended to resume a modified schedule of weekday Masses this month but people who care about me and who are medical professionals, too, do not think that I should, as it increases the odds of my being exposed to the virus to which I am already exposed at funerals, weddings, and the Sunday Masses.

For the record, I do not shop for myself, I have been in Walt's twice since mid-March, Walgreens once, my skin doctor and, I am scheduled to see my dentist this week. I have been in no private homes, and I see my family and closest friends on driveways or from the balcony at my condo.

But we have a mounting number of Mass intentions so I will say private Masses either here in our church or in my prayer space in my home and those intentions will be printed here each Monday going forward.

I say private and by that, I mean alone, as the Mass, the celebration of the Eucharist, is essentially an action of the whole Church no matter how or when it is celebrated. Liturgy is public worship even when a priest is alone as I will be.

The very texts are in the plural, inclusive of the People of God, extending in faith to 'those known to God alone,' so I will be praying as in all Masses with, through, and in Christ, and, remember, nothing has come into being except through the Word of God incarnate in Jesus Christ.

I resist recording or live streaming as that gives an impression of participation and presence that is an artificial, even, theatrical, action of a single person going through motions in a place and at a time that is too virtual for my sensibilities.

The celebration of the Eucharist, any celebration of the Eucharist by the duly recognized and authorized, is an "anamnesis," the act of embodying, not imitating, a past event in such a way that it is a presence in the present, Real Presence, not just the bread and wine, ordinary stuff of this world, but in the scriptures read, and the humanity, even the cosmos, redeemed and sanctified as we believe is the Paschal Mystery.

Most of the named intentions I will know, I suspect, and, I believe, as I always do, that we are more than the sum of whatever we think identifies us or identified us.

Here are the intentions for this week -

Monday, 7/20 - Lottie Schuster by Family

Tuesday, 7/21 - Lois Ziemkowski by Dorothy Wyrobek

Wednesday, 7/22 - Violet Ciancanell & Simone Family by Toni & Violet

Thursday, 7/23 - Theresa Koliboski by Nancy Nolan

Friday, 7/24 - Stella Dabrowski by Family