



CHRIST CHURCH

15 West High Street + Ballston Spa, New York 12020 + Tel (518) 885-1031

UPDATE: March 19

We pray everyone continues to be healthy. Below is Father Roy's letter for more information. Also on our webpage under calendar is a button for announcements. We will also be posting things there. Please check it out.

March 17, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Another Coronavirus update regarding its effect on our church. Things seem to be changing rapidly thus it's important to check our website www.chrstepiscopalballstonspa.com and go to the coronavirus update bar and click on it for the latest updates concerning all church activities, ministries and more. Also if we do not have your email information as listed in our parish directory, and would like updates via email please email Jeanne our administrator at jspeercec@msn.com.

At a meeting of our leadership team and to comply with Bishop Love's mandate we will not be holding worship services Sunday or mid-week until the end of March. As that date approaches we will inform you as to whether or not we can resume worship. We are hopeful that we can gather for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter, but time will tell and we will do what we believe to be the best for all concerned.

In the meantime, our wardens, treasurer, vestry resource committee and I have been looking at how to manage as carefully as possible our finances. We have determined some things we may need to delay payment on and what things clearly need to be paid. With that said we hope you will continue to give your offerings. This can be done by mailing them to the church; 15 West High St, Ballston Spa, NY 12020; or through your bank having a check sent from them to us. If you use your bank, ask that your envelope number be included on it if possible. We are also currently looking at a link we will post on our website once it is ready, that you will be able to go to called **tithe.ly**. Once set up that will allow you to send your offering directly to the church. All offerings, whether through the mail or this new site will be recorded for your own tax purposes.

Again your continued support even while we are not able to come for worship will be critical to our ability to support our church and its ministries, including staff and utilities and all the rest that are the basics. All other spending will be curtailed at this time.

Finally, until we are able to meet and worship as we have been accustomed I am inviting you to attend *pajama church*. The idea of *pajama church* is to set a time on Sunday to sit down on your own or with others to hear or see the Liturgy of the Word, sermon and announcements. We are currently looking at methods to have our worship service available online with access from our website. Once that is established I will let you know. Until that is available the Liturgy of the Word, (the Sunday Scripture readings) the sermon, prayers and other announcements will be

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available in audio form from our website, which can be found on the homepage under podcast sermons.

If you have prayer requests during this time or become sick with the coronavirus or any other health issues, please email them to Jeanne our administrator at jspeercec@msn.com. These concerns will be offered in prayer.

Other things to note:

- All activities are cancelled until further notice.
- The Food Pantry will remain open if we can staff it. Many of our volunteers should not work because of health concerns for them, however others without these health concerns are willing to step in temporarily to substitute. It is critical if we can to keep the Food pantry open as we believe people will be in need, especially as this goes on with people out of work. If you would like to volunteer please email Jeanne at jspeercec@msn.com
- Our KidsFirst Daycare also remains open. The NYS Office of Children and Family Services is encouraging us to remain open so that folks can work. We are taking every precaution to keep things sanitized and safe.
- The Church Office will remain open at this time, please call the office;518-885-1031 instead of coming into the office.

These are difficult times. Uncharted territory in many ways. Please be patient with us as we navigate through all this and please continue your prayers.

In Christ,

Father Derik Roy

If you have any pastoral concerns or need to speak with Father Roy, please call him at 518-366-5160

Links to check out:

Episcopal Diocese of Albany <https://albanyepiscopaldiocese.org>

<https://www.bkreader.com/2020/03/07/heres-a-diy-way-to-make-your-own-protective-face-mask/>

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