To our candidates for Confirmation, parents, and sponsors,

FIRST AND FOREMOST, I PRAY THAT ALL OF YOU ARE SAFE AND HEALTHY DURING THIS UNPRECEDENTED TIME

UNPRECEDENTED AT LEAST IN OUR LIFETIME.

SECOND, GIVEN THIS LACK OF PRECEDENT, I SIMPLY, HUMBLY, ASK FOR YOUR PATIENCE AND UNDERSTANDING AS WE APPROACH THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IN OUR PARISH. WE ARE MAKING DECISIONS AS QUICKLY AND AS PRUDENTLY AS WE CAN. MY INTENTION IS NOT TO INCONVENIENCE YOU. PLEASE KNOW WE ARE DOING THE VERY BEST WE CAN.

THIRD, SOME PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR YOU:

- a) Confirmation practice, originally scheduled for this Saturday, March 21st, is postponed indefinitely. We will wait for further developments on the restrictions put in place by the Health Department.
- B) CURRENTLY, THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION, SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 2ND, IS STILL ON THE SCHEDULE. IF THE MASS AND SACRAMENT PROCEEDS AS SCHEDULED, IT WILL LIKELY BE WITH LIMITATIONS ON WHO CAN ATTEND LIKELY TO BE ONLY IMMEDIATE FAMILY AND SPONSORS ALLOWED TO ATTEND.
 - c) With those limitations in mind, it might be a better situation to postpone the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation until we are allowed to celebrate it without restrictions. We are Looking into our possible options.
- D) OUR WEDNESDAY NIGHT ENCOUNTER PROGRAM, WHICH SERVES AS PROXIMATE PREPARATION FOR THE RECEPTION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IN OUR PARISH, IS SUSPENDED INDEFINITELY. AGAIN, WE WILL WAIT FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS ON THE RESTRICTIONS PUT IN PLACE BY THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.
- E) BE ASSURED THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IN OUR PARISH THIS YEAR. IT MIGHT BE DELAYED BUT IT WILL HAPPEN. WITH THAT IN MIND, AND GIVEN THE SUSPENSION OF ENCOUNTER, I WANT TO ENCOURAGE CONTINUED PREPARATION IN YOUR HOMES.
- F) PRACTICAL PREPARATIONS INCLUDE: 1. CHOOSE A SPONSOR AND TURN IN THE SPONSOR FORM TO THE OFFICE (THE REQUIREMENTS TO BE A SPONSOR ARE LISTED ON THE SPONSOR FORM ATTACHED TO THIS EMAIL IN CASE YOU HADN'T YET RECEIVED IT)
- 2. CHOOSE A PATRON SAINT AS A MODEL FOR YOUR NEW LIFE AS A DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST AND WRITE UP A FEW SENTENCE DESCRIPTION ON WHY YOU CHOSE THIS SAINT AND TURN IN THAT DESCRIPTION TO THE OFFICE
- 3. CONTINUE TO WORK ON THE 92 QUESTIONS IN YOUR HOMES AS PART OF THE RICH TRADITION OF THE RECEPTION OF THIS SACRAMENT IN OUR DIOCESE
- 4. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF FREE ACCESS TO FORMED.ORG (STMARYSDAVIDCITY.FORMED.ORG) IN OUR PARISH TO CONTINUE YOUR FORMATION IN DISCIPLESHIP WHICH IS THE HEART OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION (THERE WILL BE MORE HELP AND GUIDANCE ON THIS FORMATION COMING LATER THIS WEEK)

THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IN OUR PARISH WILL BE A BLESSING TO OUR PARISH REGARDLESS OF THE PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES OF THAT CELEBRATION. I HOPE AND PRAY THAT IT WILL BE A BLESSING TO YOUR FAMILY AS WELL. WITH MY BLESSING AND PRAYERS,

FATHER BUHMAN