



**DIOCESE OF
STOCKTON**

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I pray that this finds you healthy and coping well with the rapidly changing landscape of our day to day lives.

Earlier today, following the guidance of state and national public health officials, and out of love and concern for God's people, the Diocese of Stockton made the very difficult decision to suspend all public daily and Sunday Masses until further notice beginning on Wednesday, March 18. Parishes are encouraged to open their church buildings on Sundays and throughout the week for parishioners and others who wish to pray and seek spiritual consolation. Please contact your local parish to learn if, and when, the church will be open. We will continue to post updates, information and resources, including those for online Masses, on our website: www.stocktondiocese.org.

Let us keep in our prayers all who have already been impacted by the Coronavirus, especially those who have lost their life. We pray for all medical professionals who are and will be dealing with anyone suffering from this illness. May our Holy Mother, Health of the Sick, intercede for us during this time.

In the Peace of Christ,

Bishop Myron J. Cotta