

Thursday, April 9, 2020

Dear friends,

Blessings to you all as we enter into the celebrations of the Sacred Triduum, beginning with tonight's celebration of the Holy Thursday evening Mass of the Lord's Supper. While our current circumstances have created a physical distance between us, we know that Christ unites us as we enter the mysteries of His passion, death, and resurrection.

In [his article on First Things today](#), C.C. Pecknold remarked that "It's as though we have entered a time akin to Narnia under spell, where it is always Lent and never Easter."¹ C.S Lewis' *Chronicles of Narnia* are filled with allegories of Christianity, but this one seems particularly apt. Though imposed from without, we are all united now in a shared sacrifice that most of our generations have never had occasion to experience. While the timeline of things material may be uncertain, we know that Lent always gives way to Easter, that even death can not hold back the saving work of Jesus.

Brothers and sisters, let us turn our longing towards the Lord! Our desire for the sacraments, for a return to what should be is barely an echo of the longing Jesus has for friendship for each of us. 'I thirst', He said. We are aware – perhaps in a new way – of how we, too, thirst for Him. What a blessing when this holy longing is answered in Christ's coming to us. We need not wait for our next Mass together; we can turn to Him now as one Body, offering our sacrifice of prayer and petition. This Holy Week can be the one that moves us from a tepid faith to the fervor of the saints, if we allow it.

You are in my prayers daily, but above all in the prayers of these three days. Let us offer ourselves as best we can to Christ our King, whose victory always leads to new life – now and in eternity.

Yours in Christ,
Father Maurer

¹ *Saint Augustine's Journey to Easter*, C.C. Pecknold, <https://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2020/04/st-augustines-journey-to-easter>