

Dear friends and parishioners of St. Mary and St. Gertrude,

I think I saw things like this on a movie once when I was in High School. It's almost like we got hit by a nuclear attack!!! I'm so grateful to all who have listened to me BEG for everyone to start using the parish website.

So here it is in a nutshell. Please share the news with all those who still do not know how to use the computer.

Many original permissions have been recalled. The situation is just too frightening. Therefore, our church buildings are **CLOSED** until at least May 15th. The same is with our rectory and office. All workers have been evacuated. All regular business is suspended.

Weddings are to be postponed as well as Baptisms. We cannot even offer a funeral mass! However, in the event of a family death, we should be notified so that we might attend a cemetery service. (The priests are offering mass in the rectory for all intentions.)

If at all possible, please only call the rectory in a serious emergency or last rites. I have just heard that confessions may be heard **OUTSIDE**. Father David and I will try to devise some kind of a system for this to happen.

A good number of people have helped with the office and phones. However, this is no longer allowed. But we want to thank all of you for your kindness during this terrible time. I can't tell you how many people have called just to see if we're **OK**.

The Cross certainly brings people of love together!

Father Frank