



St Mary's Catholic Parish

Upper Coomera

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Dear Parishioners, visitors and friends,

The shutdown of weekend Masses has created a great deal of uncertainty around our parish finances. Our parish has significant financial obligations and very few of us are making ongoing financial commitment through direct debit or credit card donations. What this means is that we could face serious financial consequences without weekend masses. In fact, we will be down by about \$2,500 per week. I am not ignorant of the enormous pressures the spread of the coronavirus must have put on family income and living expenses, and no one is certain when this whole thing will end. This is why, I am very uneasy about asking anyone for financial contributions to the Parish at this time, but I am not sure how we can keep our parish alive financially. This has to be a matter for individual families.

Therefore, would it be fair to appeal to families who are already making their financial contributions through direct debit or credit card donations, and who are able to continue, to keep up with their support and for those families who are not giving through direct debit or credit card donations, and who are able to give, to please prayerfully consider support through direct debit or credit card donation. Please press CTRL key and [click here to download](#) and fill out the form for direct debit or CTRL key and [click here to download](#) and fill out the form for credit card, and email it back to the Parish office via coomera@bne.catholic.net.au.

Since the Solemnity of Easter cannot be transferred, we have been instructed by Rome to celebrate the rites of Holy Week and Easter without the presence of the people. The times for our celebrations are available in our newsletter and website, www.stmaryscoomera.net.au, so that you can prayerfully unite yourselves in your homes to the prayers of the Church. If communism, wars, prosecutions, etc, could not crush us or the fundamental tenets of our faith, then coronavirus will not. I invite us all to be one in mind, body and spirit as we go through this challenging period together.

May the God of peace continue to be upon us, and may the Virgin Mary, under whose patronage our parish is named, continue to intercede for us all.

God bless you all,

Fr John Ikechukwu Echewodo.