

LIVING THE GOSPEL

Encounter

Grow

Witness

Take Action is a project of St. Mary of the Hills to share individual, neighborhood, and organizations' responses during the Coronavirus. Some responses will be broadcast through Facebook, the bulletin, smoth committees, the AOD. Check the parish bulletin for corresponding prayers and the parish website for many more links.

Add to the list by emailing takeaction@smoth.org. This page will be periodically updated and posted on the parish website. Names are optional and we like pictures. For more info on **Take Action**, scroll to the last page.

Recruit Volunteers for Michigan The State of Michigan is seeking healthcare and community volunteers to help respond to the pandemic. They are also seeking volunteers to help conduct local, state, and national elections. If you have people asking how to get involved you can connect them to the [state volunteer website](#).

Outreach to Senior Citizens Catholic Charities has expanded their Senior Outreach program which will allow their case managers to deliver food and medical supplies to seniors who are home-bound during the quarantine. If you would like to partner with this program please contact [Nikki Harvey](#).

Homemade Masks St. Aloysius Neighborhood Services and other parish-based organizations are handing out homemade masks to their community members. These masks do not need to be medical-grade but they do provide some protection as well as remind people that we are in the midst of a public health crisis. If you would like to make or deliver masks please email takeaction@smoth.org.

Advocacy Please make sure that you are contacting your local officials and reminding them not to forget the poor, marginalized and vulnerable when making decisions in response to this crisis. Specifically consider the needs of undocumented members of your community who might not qualify for public assistance and for workers who might not be able to quarantine themselves because of the essential nature of their job. Remember the [themes of Catholic Social Teaching](#) when planning your advocacy!

Engage the Community in Prayer The AOD has created a website on [Spiritual Closeness](#) to engage people in their faith during this time of social distance. Please check it out and encourage your family, friends, and parishioners, to do the same. Also, here is a [Solidarity Prayer](#) from the USCCB that many are finding helpful.

From Bellbrook

I just got the packages with tons of cute cards and pictures from the kids at St. Mary's. We appreciate it so much! That's amazing; thank you so much for doing that and thinking of us. We will be delivering them to the ladies.

For Grovecrest Senior Care

- Mail a thinking of you / Happy Easter Season card c/o Liz Edgar 121 Prall St. Pontiac MI 48341
- Contact Betty Maciejewski richmaciej@yahoo.com to shop for and deliver treats of varied kinds. You will be reimbursed.

From Baldwin Center, Pontiac

Thank you for participating in the Neighborhood Lunch Program for **HOPE Shelter** and **Baldwin Center Clients**. St. Mary's provided 160 lunches from Papa Joe's, Rochester Hills. These were delivered on Easter Sunday and 4/19. See Sign Up Genius on the parish website to help shop for sandwich makings, make sandwiches at St. Mary's or deliver Sandwiches to Baldwin Center.

From the American Red Cross

We are sorry to cancel the Blood Drive on April 23. Stay tune for a summer drive.

From a Resident

My neighborhood is close knit. We are keeping social distancing when we are outside walking our pets. One of our neighbors set up a card table with lunch bags of freshly baked donuts. All were properly sealed.

From a Parishioner

- My wife and I pray a decade of the Rosary every evening for health care workers and those on the front lines
- [Refugees as Guides in a Berlin Museum](#) A touch of inspiration
- We have been blest and would like to give back financially to someone in need.
- Here is \$100 to help with the feeding of Shelter guests.
- I want to help during this scary time. Please let me know how I can be involved.
- I am willing to shop.

(mail any financial offerings to St. Mary of the Hills with Outreach in the Memo line)

Organizations

Neighborhood House

[Click HERE](#) to make a financial donation

[Click HERE](#) for the Food Pantry Wish List

Lighthouse Food Donations

Lighthouse is accepting food donations at our offices in Pontiac and Clarkston. Additionally, food can be dropped off at any Gardner-White location.

[Click HERE](#) for foods requested, instructions and drop off locations.

Lighthouse Volunteers to pack emergency food boxes

Volunteers are needed to help pack food boxes for distribution! Lighthouse is taking extreme precautions to ensure the safety of all volunteers.

[Volunteer HERE](#) to pack emergency food boxes

Donate funds to Lighthouse

Lighthouse is raising funds to help with emergency preparedness plans to protect clients, staff, and volunteers. These funds will allow Lighthouse and other Oakland County nonprofits to provide individuals needed medical attention, a place to self-quarantine, food, or other emergency needs associated with COVID-19.

Click [HERE](#) to donate.

Click [HERE](#) for updates on the parish website.

Pray Together

Reach Out Together

Learn Together

Act/Serve Together



ST. MARY OF THE HILLS
Rochester Hills, MI

RESPONDING TO COVID-19

TAKE ACTION

The worldwide pandemic, Covid-19, is on everyone's horizon. Here are a few thoughts for prayerful reflection and action as we journey, much like the disciples, on the road to Emmaus.

In what way . . .

- Has your **prayer** been impacted by the pandemic?
- Has reflection on CST, **Catholic Social Teaching**, helped you to critique structures and see root causes?
- Has your particular **Charism** or spiritual gift mix been at work?
- Has the parish community and the Archdiocese responded? Remember the parish priorities are hunger and homelessness, life and dignity, mental health.
- Has your individual, family, or work **actions** been connected to Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy and the Sunday Gospels?

We have created a platform to share responses to any of the above by emailing takeaction@smoth.org.

- Your response to any of the above questions will be shared on social media including the bulletin. Reword the questions in a way most helpful to you. Your responses will spark more creativity for others to respond. Pictures are welcome. Contributions are anonymous if you choose. They might be organized into a flipbook at a later date.
- You may email other questions, links to help, requests for help as well as brief stories. The Holy Spirit has been nudging me to... I have discovered... The most challenging... Favorite Practices... Keeping Sane... Treasured Memories... Lessons Learned... Fun Songs... Responses will be organized and placed on the website as well as the bulletin and Facebook.

[St. Mary's Connections on the Parish Website](#)

