

UPDATE IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT – Monday, 03/23/2020

**Wheaton Franciscan Motherhouse and Chapel Closed Until Further Notice**

The Wheaton Franciscan Community seeks to be a welcoming community of faith striving together to be instruments of peace, hope and justice in our world today. Along with the rest of the world, we continue to do our part to mitigate the impact of the virus, particularly to those most vulnerable.

**In compliance with the State of Illinois mandatory “Stay at Home” order, the Wheaton Franciscan Motherhouse, Chapel, and Tau Spirituality Center will be closed to the public. These restrictions remain in place until April 7, 2020 or otherwise notified by the Governor. Until further notice, all Sunday and daily Masses are closed to the public.**

Currently, no sister or staff member in the United States is infected with the virus. The safety and well-being of our sisters, covenant companions, staff, faith community, and visitors is our top priority. All non-essential personnel are working from home if possible. Essential personnel include those providing direct care for the well-being of the sisters living at the Motherhouse. We continue to strive to meet the needs of all our sisters, covenant companions, staff, faith community, and all our friends and supporters. To this extent, we have created a COVID-19 resource page <https://wheatonfranciscan.org/covid-19-resources/>. Please check back regularly for new inspiration and resources.

We will continue to evaluate the situation and keep you informed of changes. Thank you for patience and understanding as we take steps to protect one another from the spread of this virus. We encourage you to follow the guidance provided by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html> and your state Department of Public Health.

Please hold us in prayer as we continue to hold you in prayer during this time of uncertainty. Together may we continue to be a *Blessing in the Heart of the World*.