



20th March 2020

Dear parishioner of Montana

RE- STEPS TO CONTAIN SPREAD OF COVID-19 DISEASE

We have attempted to reach all of our parishioners via social media with this message however, we unfortunately could not get through to all. We regret any inconvenience to those that we could not contact.

We all have an urgent responsibility to work together to contain the spread of the Covid-19 virus in every possible way. With due regard for the circumstances of our parish and after careful thought, the Pastoral Parish Council (**PPC**) has decided on the following:

- That the best method of containment at Montana parish is to minimise contact between members of our community through gatherings where we cannot manage the numbers of attendees;
- For the time being we will continue to celebrate weekday evening masses and monitor the situation;
- We will continue with Quiet Time/Prayer on Saturdays with strict hygiene measures to reduce the risks of contact;
- The Stations of the Cross are cancelled as from this evening, and;
- Both Sunday Masses are suspended from this weekend (22 March 2020) until further notice.

Cancellation of Sunday masses is a drastic action, but we must place this in the right perspective of fighting this war against the virus. Our bishops have dispensed us of the obligation to attend Sunday mass during this time of a state declared disaster.

We are all encouraged to substitute the time normally devoted to Sunday mass with a time of prayer and reflection within our family homes. It may be possible to follow the Sunday mass on Radio Veritas at 11h00 – go to www.radioveritas.co.za or search one of many webcasts from Catholic parishes that are faced with the same challenge. A suggestion is to go online to www.adct.org.za on Sunday 22 March at 09h00 for a webcast of Sunday mass from Cape Town where Sunday masses have been suspended across the whole archdiocese.

It will be good to look up the readings set for each weekday and Sunday and to read these together and reflect upon the content of the Word.

If you wish to be included in messages via social media or direct e-mail, please forward your details to the parish secretary **Simone on 082 573 7039** who will ensure that you are listed.

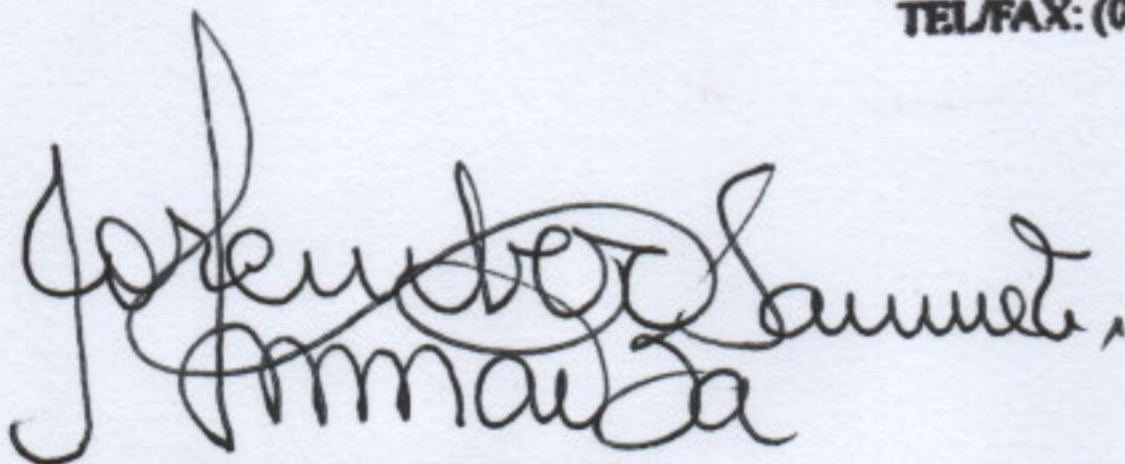
We ask that you pray earnestly for a solution to this threatened disaster and that you please spread this message to others in the parish community whom we may not have reached.

You may contact the following people if you have any queries/need more information:

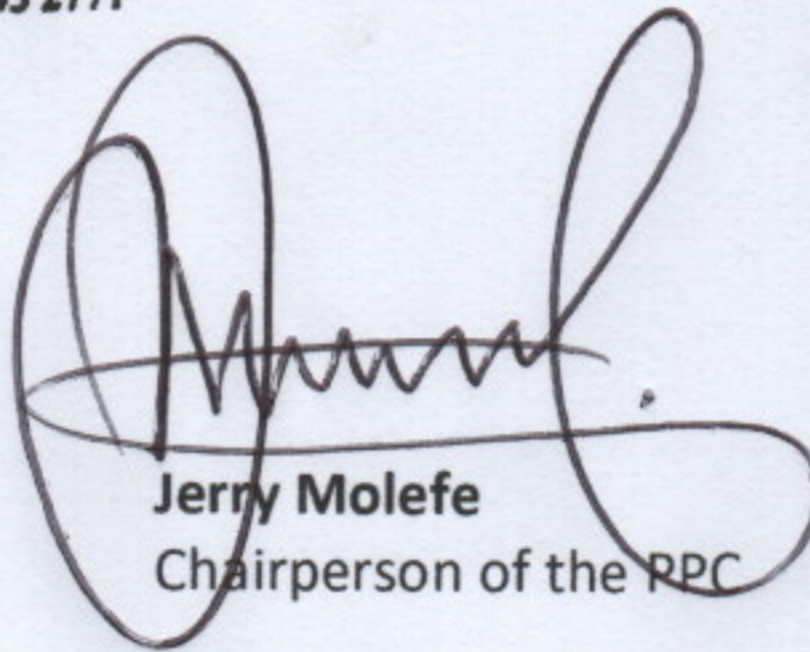
- Jerry Molefe – 082 464 9946 (PPC Chairperson)
- Nthabiseng Sambo – 083 361 8531 (PPC Vice-Chairperson)
- Tracey Roelf - 083 536 9954 (PPC Secretary)
- Richard Lydall – 076 539 8365 (Chairperson - Liturgy Committee)

Yours Faithfully

**PRESENTATION CATHOLIC
CHURCH**
214 VERONICA RD MONTANA
P.O. BOX 906 - 862
MONTANA 0151 PRETORIA
TEL/FAX: (012) 543 2771



Fr Sam Madza (SMA)
Parish Priest



Jerry Molefe
Chairperson of the PPC