Dear Diocesan Family,

I just wanted to check-in with you and let you know that you continue to be in my thoughts and prayers. As I look out into the cathedral nave at Noon Mass during the week, I don’t feel alone because I feel the presence of all of you praying with me before God’s throne of grace and mercy. Despite the hardship of these days, I pray that each day you will find the giftedness of the moment. I know I have discovered that with my own immediate family. It might sound different to hear your bishop say how he has re-connected more with his brothers and sister in the last few days (even with social distancing) and that we have a new sense of caring for each other and our elderly parents. Yet, for me, this is one example of light in the midst of darkness or God opening a window when the door has been closed. I am sure you have your own.

As we continue our Lenten journey and prepare for the Easter feast, let us not forget that “it is better to light one candle than to curse the darkness.” Our gathering for the Easter Vigil may be in jeopardy, but our kindling of new fire and light is something each of us can do in the days ahead. God’s blessings and the peace of the Lord be with you always!

Bishop Lucia