

Dear Prospective Customers,

Greetings in Christ! Thank you for considering purchasing our altar breads. At this time, beginning November 1, 2020, **we are accepting new customers, though only on a provisional basis.** What this means is that when you become our customer, there is an understanding between you and us that we will fill your orders faithfully, but that if our previous customers' orders begin to regain pre-COVID levels, we will need to ask you to purchase your altar breads elsewhere, so that we can maintain the balance in our monastic life between prayer and work.

Please allow us to explain.

Before March of 2020, we were at capacity in terms of the number of customers for whom we were able to bake and process altar breads and still maintain our life of prayer. Since we frequently received inquiries from persons wanting to become our customers, we posted a notice on our website saying that "due to the volume of our current customers, and our need to keep a balance between prayer and work, we are not accepting new customers at this time."

When the churches began closing due to the pandemic, our altar bread sales plummeted. As the weeks became months, and altar bread sales remained minimal, we made the decision to accept some new customers, provided that their pre-COVID orders were not large.

The present situation is that churches are open, though many at restricted capacity; and the number of people going back to Mass is slowly growing, though still far from the level of attendance before the pandemic.

We do not know what the future holds.

- If our sales remain low and never regain pre-COVID levels, then we would be eager to take on new customers.

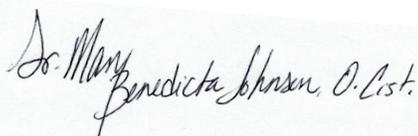
- If, however, we take on more customers now only to have our previous customers eventually resume their former order volumes, then we would have to let go some customers because we are not able to provide for this number of people and still give priority to our prayer life, which is our primary service to the Church.

Given this situation, we have decided to accept some new customers if they are willing to be on a provisional basis. If our preexisting customers' orders begin to regain their pre-COVID levels such that we are not able to keep up with production, we will have to ask some customers to take their business elsewhere, and the first ones we would ask would be the ones who are on a "provisional basis."

Clearly, this set-up would present some inconvenience for you as a customer, and so we understand if you would rather not purchase our breads under these conditions. In that case, we would encourage you to consider purchasing your altar breads from another religious community [[click here](#) for a list]. If, however, you would like to proceed with this arrangement, please contact us.

We are very grateful for your consideration and understanding; may our Heavenly Father shower down on you His blessings of peace and union with Him in His Son Jesus, through the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

In the peace and joy of Christ,



Sr. Mary Benedicta Johnson, O.Cist.
Altar Bread Manager

*"Let us beseech the Lord to reawaken in us the joy at His presence
and that we may once more adore Him.
Without adoration, there is no transformation of the world."*

-POPE BENEDICT XVI

