



May 27, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

Recently Archbishop Jackels announced that parishes in the Archdiocese are able to gather “*for outreach to the poor, for faith formation programs, and for the public celebration of Mass and Sacraments*” beginning 30-31 May 2020, Pentecost Sunday.

After consultation with the pastoral council, we will begin public Mass on the weekend of May 30-31, 2020. We understand that some may not yet be comfortable returning to public Mass, while others are anxious to return. We will continue to broadcast Mass on Facebook.

As of now, **Weekend Masses** will be held at our regular times: Saturday at 4:30 pm and Sunday at 8:00 and 10:30 am. (Cleaning/disinfecting will occur before/after each Mass.) **Daily Mass** times are listed in the bulletin.

Immaculate Conception Public Mass Guidelines  
as of May 30/31

- 1) Please do not attend Mass if you have underlying health conditions, a fever, cough, feel sick, etc., or do not currently feel safe attending Mass. The Archbishop has dispensed the Sunday Obligation.
- 2) Observe physical distancing (6 feet) as you come to church – inside/outside, before/after.
  - a. Do not sit in the pews that are labeled with “**Do Not Enter**” signs – please do not move them to a different pew.
- 3) Hand sanitizer is available in the entryways of the church.
- 4) For now hymnals are removed from the pews. Bulletins will be available after Mass.
- 5) The collection basket will not be passed; rather baskets and/or boxes will be available in the church. An electronic giving form is found on page four of this weekend’s bulletin. We still need your financial support. Please consider signing up for electronic giving. Forms and a voided check may be sent to the office; direct questions to Brenda, 228-1071.
- 6) There will be no holding of hands during the Our Father or the exchange of Peace.
- 7) Father Gary and Deacon Mike will distribute Holy Communion to you by walking between the pews. Please stand in your pew to receive Holy Communion. There will be no distribution from the cup.
- 8) Other recommended practices include washing hands before/after Mass with soap and water, coughing into your elbow, not touching your face and wearing a mask.

Above all, please pray: pray for patience and pray to practice radical charity. Over the next days and weeks, our practices at Mass will inevitably change as we work through the logistics of gathering together in one place again. We are doing everything we can to make Mass attendance as safe as possible! However, it cannot be made totally ‘risk-free.’ Thus, please use your best judgement in deciding when to return to public Mass.

As the Archbishop stated, “*Gathering for faith formation programs, and for public celebration of Mass and Sacraments are important practices of our holy Catholic Faith. But so is charity, inspiring our care for the poor, and our devotion to the common good, which inspires the precautions we’re taking. We eventually want the pews filled, and programs well-attended, it just might take some time. Prayers for the end of the pandemic’s threat, as well as patience and cooperation are what’s needed most right now. May God bless us all.*”

Sincerely in Christ,  
Rev. Gary A. Mayer  
Pastor