

# ST. JOSEPH & ST. BERNARD

## RETURN TO PUBLIC MASSES

**All Masses will be held in the St. Joseph gym except St. Bernard's 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, which will be in the St. Bernard School Hall. The main school entrance (Door #1) will be opened 30 minutes before the scheduled Mass time, except St. Bernard's 8:30 a.m. on Sunday which will open at 7:45 a.m. All other doors will remain locked. This is to allow for the required cleaning/disinfection process between Masses.**

### MASS SCHEDULES BEGINNING MAY 19

ST. JOSEPH		ST. BERNARD	
Tuesday	6:00 p.m.	Thursday	7:00 p.m. in the St. Bernard School Hall
Wednesday & Thursday	7:00 a.m.	Sunday	8:30 a.m. in the St. Joseph Gym
Friday	8:15 a.m.		
Saturday	4:00 p.m.		
Sunday	10:30 a.m.		

**YOU SHOULD STAY HOME if you are symptomatic, an Individual 65 and over, or of any age in high risk categories:**

Per the CDC, "at-risk" health conditions include but are not limited to: high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, severe obesity, asthma, those whose immune system is compromised such as by chemotherapy for cancer and other conditions requiring such therapy. -*Catholic Diocese of Evansville, May 7, 2020*

**Bishop Siegel has extended the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days until at least August 15, 2020.**

**As a result, no one should return to Mass if they are not comfortable doing so.**

**A MASK IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AT MASS:** Please wear your mask from the time you exit your vehicle until you return. A limited supply of masks will be available at the entry of church.

**ENTRANCE:** You should enter the school building at the main doors. All side doors will be locked. Please maintain a 6-foot distance from the family in front of you. Families living in the same home are exempt from the 6-foot distance requirement. Families/individuals will be greeted at the door and directed to a specific seat until capacity has been met.

**MAXIMUM CAPACITY:** With social distancing guidelines our capacity is extremely reduced. All attendees are required to be seated. Once we have reached our capacity in the gym, we will begin seating people in the cafeteria. Since you will be unable to hear the Mass in the cafeteria, this will be a place of silent prayer during the service. Fr. Brian will distribute the Eucharist to those who are seated in the cafeteria.

**PERSONAL SANITIZER:** You are asked to bring your own personal hand sanitizer. We suggest you use it once seated, prior to communion, immediately after communion, and once you return to your vehicle.

**COMMUNION:** You are to leave your mask in place as you approach for communion. We request all distributions be in your hand. To receive you should make a cup with your hands, the minister will then gently drop the host into your cupped hand. You lower your mask, consume the host and raise your mask before returning to your pew. We are not able to use a pyx at this time, therefore Communion is not available to be taken to those unable to attend Mass.

**COLLECTION/TITHE:** Your financial support of St. Joseph and St. Bernard is still needed. There will be a basket at the entry/exit, and you should drop your contribution/envelope in the basket. If recent conditions have made it impossible to contribute, we understand. If you have been blessed with consistent income, we ask that you consider increasing your usual gift to help offset the deficit.

## RETURN TO PUBLIC MASSES Continued

**DISMISSAL:** Will be by pew and at the direction of the usher. Out of respect and courtesy for all attending you are not to leave Mass prior to dismissal. Bulletins will be available at the door upon exit. At all times during exiting and going to vehicles we ask you (your family) to maintain a minimum of 6 feet distance from other persons.

Private prayer following Mass will not be possible so we may begin cleaning and sanitizing the building for the next scheduled Mass.

### OTHER INFORMATION IMPORTANT TO YOU:

- Both churches will remain unlocked for private prayer.
- The Sign of Peace continues to be omitted.
- Communion from the Chalice remains suspended.
- There are to be no social gathering before or after Mass, inside or outside.
- The Ushers will not take up a collection. (A basket will be placed at the back of the gym).
- The Gifts will not be carried forward.
- There will be no music at any Mass.
- There will be no Missalettes/Hymnals available.



The health of the St. Joseph & St. Bernard family is our highest priority. The guidelines have been compiled with input and direction from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Bishop Joseph Siegel, Matt Miller (Director, Office of Worship, Diocese of Evansville), Center for Disease Control (CDC), Governor Holcomb (State of Indiana), and the Gibson County Health Department.

If we are going to err, it will be on the side of caution. We ask you to respect and protect those that you encounter at Mass and on the St. Joseph & St. Bernard campuses. There will be challenges and frustration as we work through the framework provided for your protection, now and in the future - we ask for your understanding, support, and prayers. God bless.