

May 26, 2020

Greetings brothers and sisters,

I hope you and your loved ones are doing fine. As you know, this coming weekend (Pentecost Weekend) we will resume our celebration of public Sunday masses. I take this opportunity to welcome you back. Our parish leadership teams have been meeting to make sure that as we resume our public masses, we do that in a safe and prayerful way. Please note that things will be a *little* different, so please be understanding as we adjust to this new reality.

To prepare ourselves for our first weekends, here are a few things to expect:

- The church doors will open 30 minutes before mass begins.
- The ushers will welcome and guide/show you the place to sit. The sitting order will be from the front pews to the back pews. So, there is a high chance that you may not sit at your usual/favorite place.
- Once our permitted occupancy capacity (25%) has been reached, we cannot allow more people in. Conservatively, at 25% Our Lady of the Lakes can hold 60 people in church and 71 people in the Parish Center, and Holy Cross Church 70 people in church and 50 in the basement.
- The ushers will guide the communion lines as well as when we depart from church. Please remember to maintain social distancing.
- The priest or ministers or staff may/will give announcements or directives in the course of the liturgy whenever necessary/needed.

I strongly encourage our senior parishioners and those with underlying conditions to pray from home in these first weekends. As a parish, we plan to continue live-streaming our 8:15 am Sunday Mass. Other than the directives and guidelines that you received a week ago, I encourage you to watch this six minutes' video "The Catholic Comeback 2020" from our parish website <https://www.dsoll.org/>. Please pray for our families and the healing of our world. Come Holy Spirit and sanctify us.

Blessings,

Fr. Gideon Buya