

## **Mass in Church during COVID Pandemic:**

- These guidelines are for the safety of lives and health of us and our neighbors. **Continued opening depends on everyone's cooperation.**
- **Attendance limited to 25% of building capacity** (per fire marshal assessment).
  - **That will be approximately 75 people for Nativity Church** (The choir loft is closed)
  - **We will accommodate an additional 160 people in the Pastoral Center**
    - **We will stream the Mass to the Pastoral Center**
- **Dispensation from Sunday obligation remains for all.**
- **The Mass will be a simplified ceremony of approximately 30 - 40 minutes.**
- **Persons over 60** and with compromised immune systems are encouraged to remain home.
  
- Social distancing/masks are mandatory and must be worn throughout the Mass. People without masks will be turned away until they can obtain one.
- We will maintain at least 6 ft distance between families and individuals in all directions. Those of the same household may sit together. Each family/individual will be escorted to their seat. People must sit where directed in clearly marked designated seats. There will be no "saving" seats. You will not get your "regular" place.
- Persons with allergies who are sneezing/coughing should stay home out of charity to others.
  
- Prepare Your Children: Children 3 and older must have a mask, must wear it, and must have social distancing explained to them. Small children need to be with an adult at all times. They are not allowed to wander or visit with neighboring people/families. Children younger than 10 should be accompanied by a responsible adolescent/adult at all times, including in the restroom. Parents are highly recommended NOT to bring children less than 3 years old.
  
- We encourage you to use the restroom before arriving at Mass.
  
- We will have NO handshakes/contact between individuals or families.
- **Please place your offering in the container at the entrance/exit.** We encourage maximum utilization of online giving.
  
- **Liturgy of the Eucharist**
  - Eucharist will be distributed at the front door, **after** the final blessing and dismissal.
  - **ALL communicants will be masked, receive the host ONLY in their hand, step outside prior to lifting mask for consuming.**
  - Social distancing will be maintained during Holy Communion. – Ministers of Hospitality will direct you.
  - People will depart immediately after Mass. Please DO NOT congregate outside the church or in the parking lot!
  - Those not receiving communion should leave directly **WHEN THE MINISTERS REACH THEIR ROW.**
- The parish remains responsive to changes in conditions/requirements, and will revise these instructions weekly as necessary.