



HOLY ROSARY

Catholic Church & School

May 20, 2020

I have great news! As you may have heard Bishop Ricken announce on TV, beginning next weekend (Pentecost) **after** participating in Mass at home via livestream, TV, or radio, parishioners are invited to come to church to receive Eucharist.

This is a very exciting first step! Everyone will be very safe yet still be able to be nourished with the Body of Christ.

The Diocese has very specific guidelines, which we will follow:

- *everyone will maintain 6-foot social distancing at all times, except those in the same family unit
- *everyone will wear a mask, which will be provided if you do not have one
- *for right now, there is no praying in the pews before or after these Communion Services

After the live-stream Mass is over, come to church to attend a very brief "Communion Service." Bring your mask.

IN THE OVERHANG OUTSIDE

- *an usher will take your temperature (without touching your forehead) before you enter the narthex

IN THE NARTHEX

- *you will sanitize your hands with the sanitizer that is provided
- *nine people will go to the nearest empty circle on the floor, which will be placed 6 feet apart from each other
- *wait until the service in the Church is completed; then an usher will direct you to enter the Church

IN THE CHURCH FOR A SHORT PRAYER SERVICE

- *each person will stand in the center aisle on a separate circle as designated
- *we will pray the *Our Father* and the *Lamb of God* together
- *Deacon Chuck, who is also wearing a mask, will then sanitize his hands
- *he will distribute Communion to you in your hand (if at any time he touches your hand, he will re-sanitize his hands before proceeding)
- *you will step to the side, pull your mask down/off, place Eucharist in your mouth, put your mask back on
- *you will go to the side door to sanitize your hands and then prayerfully exit to your car
- *you will go directly to your car, say your after-Communion prayers there in your car, and then leave quietly

These Communion Services will continue until all have received Eucharist. It might sound complicated, but you will see that it will flow smoothly and be a source of great spiritual strength to all of us. I am so thankful that Bishop Ricken has found a way that we can participate in Mass and be nourished by the Body of Christ, all while remaining safe.

Pentecost weekend is the perfect time for all of us to receive Jesus and experience HOPE on the horizon! This is a temporary step which hopefully will continue to progress quickly towards being able to come to Mass. Bishop Ricken wants to make sure that everyone understands that there is no obligation to attend Mass in person or receive Holy Communion during the pandemic. He is asking those who are sick or vulnerable: please stay home.

We can have ten people at each of our Masses on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. If you would like to come, please call me or the parish office to have your name added to the list to attend Mass on a first-call, first-serve basis.

Thank you for your prayers and your patience. I think all of us can very strongly say that we are hungry and thirsting for our Lord! We can't wait to be able to come and worship together again! Hindsight is 20/20 and all of us are certainly seeing a lot of things much more clearly. May we never take Jesus and the Mass for granted again!

God bless you, Deacon Chuck