

HOLY GHOST PARISH NEWS (Issue 8)

WORSHIPING, CARING, STRONG, ONE FAMILY ALWAYS – (Even when we are apart!)

SPECIAL EDITION – MASS INFORMATION!

MASSES AT HOLY GHOST WILL BE OPEN FOR COMMUNITY WORSHIP BEGINNING THIS WEEKEND – MAY 9/10

SATURDAY – 5:00PM

SUNDAY – 9:00PM

(NOTE: Just one Mass on Sunday at this time)

TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ALL WHO ATTEND MASS DURING THE CURRENT THREAT OF THE CORONAVIRUS, WE HAVE MADE SOME NECESSARY CHANGES AND ASK ALL WHO ATTEND TO RESPECT OTHERS BY PRACTICING THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES.

FIRST ... BEFORE YOU DECIDE TO ATTEND MASS ... BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING ARCHDIOCESAN GUIDELINES AND SAFETY MEASURES GIVEN TO US AS OF MAY 4th

With the governor's decision to ease some restrictions on public gatherings beginning Monday, May 4th, groups are now permitted to gather for the celebration of liturgies while maintaining appropriate social distancing. These guidelines are subject to change in the event of new instructions from local or state health officials.

Please note:

- The dispensation from the Sunday and Holy Day obligation remains in force.
- Gatherings are limited to the Sacred Liturgy, so all forms of public liturgy in churches are permitted.
- All other parish and school activities remain restricted, including after-Mass gatherings such as coffee and rolls, funeral luncheons, wedding receptions, etc.
- Social distancing is to be maintained within each church.

The following should be encouraged to remain home:

- The elderly
- People with underlying medical conditions
- Family members who live with elderly people or those who are at risk
- People who have access to those at risk in nursing institutions
- People who have upper respiratory or flu like symptoms or live with someone with upper respiratory or flu like symptoms
- People with COVID-19, live with someone with COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19

FOR EVERYONES SAFETY, THE FOLLOWING CHANGES/GUIDELINES WILL BE IN PLACE:

- Every other pew will be blocked off to help us maintain safe social distancing. Please be seated in a way that gives you a safe social distance from other families during and after the liturgy, and please do not congregate inside or outside of the church building.
- Missalettes and Mass cards will be removed from the church. Each weekend a “Mass Program” (*with prayers of the Mass and words to the hymns*) will be printed and given to you as you arrive. After Mass you can take it home with your or leave it in the pew to be discarded.
- There will be no holy water put in the fonts ... but holy water and small containers to take some home if you like will be at the front of the church in the holy water stoup.
- Doors and pews will be sanitized after each Mass.
- For your safety, a mask will be provided for the greeters to wear when they greet you. Greeters will be your “*door opener*” so you won’t have to touch the door handles.
- All who take part in the Mass as liturgical ministers will be asked to wash or sanitize their hands immediately before Mass begins.
- There are hand sanitizers on the wall at each entrance and all are encouraged to use them when you arrive and when you leave the church. A box of Latex gloves and a bottle of hand sanitizer will also be put on the back table for ushers to use when handling the money (*or are available for anyone who feels they have a need for them.*)
- Besides the priest and deacon, each Mass will have 1 Lector and for now 1 EMHC to go to the back (*another EMHC to distribute communion from the front will be scheduled if there is no deacon*), and one adult altar server (*as available*) at each Mass. We will not use youth altar servers at this time.
- There will be no gift bearers or formal presentation of the gifts. The communion bread will be put in a covered ciborium and wine in a cruet and placed on the credence table for Mass.
- There will be no sign of peace.
- Those who distribute Holy Communion will wear a mask and use hand sanitizer immediately prior to the distribution (*On the credence table for priest and deacon and on small table in front of the first pew for EMHC’s*).
- When you come forward for Holy Communion, please maintain a six-foot distance between you and the person in front of you in line and we prefer that you receive Holy Communion in the hand and not on the tongue. If you choose to receive communion on the tongue, please wait and be the last in line to come up front for communion.
- There will be no distribution of the Precious Blood to the congregation
- Father and the other ministers will not greet people before or after the liturgy

We are happy to be able to worship together again in our church even though we know that these temporary changes are difficult for all of us.

We look forward to the day when all of these restrictions can be lifted but until then please look at this time as an opportunity to exercise thankfulness, patience and charity toward each other.