

May 12, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

Last Friday Bishop Kettler sent out an update to all the parishes listing the requirements and recommendations each parish would need to implement to receive approval to begin celebrating weekday and weekend Masses. I have already discussed the process with at least one or two staff members from each parish.

Without getting into the details of the extensive guidelines some basic information can be shared to keep the dialogue rolling. There will be some spacing of seating in church to encourage social distancing. Efforts will be made for families to seat together. You can wear a mask, but not at communion time, and hand sanitizer will be available. There will be no altar servers and other ministries are being evaluated. Hymnals and missalettes will be removed and this will limit the music at Mass. Methods of distribution of communion will be studied and exiting of the premise will be discussed.

Bishop Kettler has encouraged the continuation of the recorded Mass, especially for the elderly and those who may have some anxiety of returning to public worship at this time. I have not yet set a Mass schedule, due largely to the “unknowns”...how many people are planning on attending, which parish, times etc. Please have patience as I am sure there will be a strong learning curve for everyone.

Plans are coming together and they will be submitted the bishop for his approval.

In Our Risen Lord,

Fr. Don Wagner