

Dear Parishioners,

June 8, 2020

I am very happy to inform you, that based on the recent announcement by the State of New York and with the permission of our Archbishop, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, we are, once again, able to offer **Daily Masses, Funeral Masses, Baptisms and Weddings** - in addition to the **Reconciliation** times we began offering last Saturday.

Beginning this **Wednesday, June 10th** we will offer **Daily** Mass every weekday, and on Saturday, **at 12 noon**. The originally reserved 12:10 Mass Intentions will be announced at each afternoon Mass. We will let you know, shortly, how we will handle the Announced Masses which have been left unsaid during these past few months. When things open-up further and we approach more *normal* times, we will re-institute a 9am Mass. We will continue to *stream our Sunday Masses*, but will discontinue the **Daily** Mass *Streaming*, since Daily Masses will now be available to the public. As of today, we have not been authorized to offer public **SUNDAY** Mass. We are, however, hopeful that our Sunday Masses will return by the end of June. Meanwhile, please remember, that because of the ongoing health crisis, the Cardinal has *dispensed* everyone from the Sunday Mass obligation.

We are thrilled to have our Parish Office re-opened with our secretary, Fran Amendola, hard at work taking care of a multitude of tasks.

Current State regulations restrict each house of worship to utilizing no more than **1/4** of the its seating capacity. Those who wish to attend any of the above public services need to observe all of the important health practices which have been instilled in us over the past three months:

- + If any member of your household has a fever, or is feeling ill, please remain at home.
- + If you are elderly with pre-existing health conditions, you should remain at home at this phase.
- + Pews have been premeasured for **Individual, Couples or Family** seating with appropriate 6' social distancing in-between. Members of the same household may sit together.
- + Since seats will be filled-in as people arrive, there will be no choice of seating location.
- + Facial coverings (masks) and gloves must be worn to Mass.
- + To avoid contact, there will be no offertory procession or *exchange of peace* during the Mass.
- + The Sacred Host will be distributed in the hand only. Please form a single line and observe the 6' social distance as you proceed down the center aisle. Disabled persons may remain seated.
- + At this time, only the Celebrant will distribute Holy Communion.
- + Hand sanitizer dispensers will be available on your way out of Mass.

We will soon begin communicating with our young families who have had their **Baptism dates** postponed. Those who have not previously contacted us and who wish to arrange a Baptism date may do so by calling the Parish Office during the week. (845-735-7405)

Funeral Masses will resume at the usual time of 10am, with burial to follow. As of today's conversations with our local Funeral Directors, they are still awaiting word from the State regarding attendance at wakes, which is currently restricted to 10 guests at a time.

Please know, that thanks to our Parish Maintenance Supervisor Mike Donovan our Church and bathroom areas are sanitized and disinfected daily. Our lavatory has now been equipped with a new *touchless* liquid soap dispenser; *touchless* paper towel dispenser; hand sanitizer and the new waste basket has a *foot pedal* for opening and closing.

We currently have a parish (*Flocknote*) database of over 1400 email addresses which allows us to enjoy ongoing communication with many of our households. We wish more of our parishioners would "*join the flock.*" Please use your own outreach via email, Facebook or Twitter and, yes, the telephone, to spread the word to your neighbors and fellow parishioners who may not be hooked-up to a computer. If they wish to join, ask them to send their email address to us at staedansit@optonline.net, or visit our website at here at StAedan.org and fill out the auto-form in the column to the right "**FlockNote Signup.**"

We are very happy to have reached this next level of public worship. However, we realize that we are "a work in progress" as we continue to test the waters of the very different world in which we are currently living. We thank you for your patience; especially, when having to deal with all of these aforementioned practices. We welcome your suggestions and invite you to send us your thoughts at the above email address. Remember, we are a work in progress and our ultimate goal is for us to return to more normal services, activities and parish life as soon as we can. Thank you for your ongoing prayers, encouraging notes, generous financial support and patience as we work through these challenging times together.

I pray that you and your loved ones stay safe and healthy. I will keep in touch and share any new developments with you as soon as I can. Father Ivan and I pray for your every day, especially in our Masses. God bless you. Saint Aedan, pray for us.

Prayerfully in Christ,
Monsignor Emmet Nevin
Msgr. Emmet Nevin
Pastor