

## **CAREFUL CONSIDERATION FOR RESUMING MASSES IN OUR COLLABORATIVE 6-9-2020**

1. **Cardinal O'Malley has dispensed indefinitely the obligation to attend Sunday Mass.**
2. As some houses of worship prepare to resume public services, experts warn the risk of worshippers contracting COVID-19 remains high. For weeks, outbreaks of the coronavirus have been traced to houses of worship.
3. Those who are ill or have tested positive for COVID-19 are encouraged to refrain from coming to Mass. The elderly or those with health conditions that put them at particular risk are encouraged to stay home, by both the Cardinal and the Governor.
4. **If a parishioner tests positive for COVID 19 who attended Mass, the local department of health must be contacted and the church must undergo a deep cleaning before reopening.**
5. **LIVE STREAMING of the Sunday 10:30am Mass will continue on our SJTW website and Facebook page.**
6. **Worship will seem different**
  - a. **Ushers will be located in multiple places and will assign Mass attendees to specific pews.**
    - i. **Outside main parking lot side entrance** with spray bottles of hand sanitizer.
    - ii. **Within the Gathering Area** ensuring social distance separation in transit to main body of the church.
    - iii. **Within the main body of the church** directing parishioners to appropriate pews. Families will be able to sit together.
    - iv. Ushers will use "fish counters" to obtain total count of parishioners at Mass.
    - v. **Persons who have not registered must be turned away if the occupancy limit has been reached.** Registration lists must be kept for at least 14 days in case the Department of Public Health needs to enact Contact Tracing.
  - b. **No gatherings before or after Mass.** Attendees need to **go directly to pews** and **leave directly to their cars** afterwards. **Handicap exceptions will be toward the handicap parking on the Pembroke side of the church. Use of home bathrooms are strongly advised before coming to Mass.**
  - c. **All church doors and windows will remain open for ventilation. Air condition may be used if weather warrants it.**
  - d. All attendees to have **hands sprayed with hand sanitizer** before entry to church.
  - e. **Masks to be worn at all times** except at the moment of consuming Holy Communion, and for special circumstances, i.e. those under 2 years of age, parental discretion for those between age 2-5, and for medical reasons. **Those NOT wearing masks will be placed on the Mary side of the church.**
  - f. **Offertory** donations to be placed in corresponding church basket upon entry.
  - g. **No bulletins, prayer cards, missalettes.** All touchable items have been removed.
  - h. **There will be no altar servers or choir.**
    - i. No processional or recessional.
  - j. **No congregational singing.**
  - k. No offertory of bread & wine.
  - l. No passing of collection baskets.
  - m. **No holding hands during the "Our Father" prayer.**
  - n. **No "Sign of Peace" (no handshaking)** This part will be skipped altogether.
  - o. **Remain in pews for reception of Holy Communion in the hand only at this time. Mask remains on until the clergy or minister has distributed Holy Communion and moved at least 6 feet away.**
  - p. **When Mass has ended, Ushers will guide parishioners on exiting the church by the two front side entrances. Handicap exceptions will be toward the handicap parking on the Pembroke side of the church, and will process out after others sections have cleared out.**
  - q. **No gathering in the parking lot after Church.**
7. **Cleaning of the church (pews, etc.) will take place immediately after Mass by the volunteers.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE! Without volunteers, resumption of public Mass would not be possible.**

**Consider being an Usher and call the office at 781-293-3581 ext. 115 to volunteer.**

**God Bless you! -- Fr. Mike Hobson**