



Saint Michael's Catholic Community

17150 - 88TH Ave., Coopersville, MI 49404 Phone (616) 384-4026 • Fax (616) 837-7893

July 24, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Bishop Walkowiak has announced the extension of the dispensation for all Catholics within the territory of the Diocese of Grand Rapids from their obligation of attending Sunday Mass through Sept. 7 (Labor Day). The dispensation is granted broadly to ensure that anyone who needs to stay home to protect the common good can do so confidently, in good conscience. But those who are truly able to attend Mass should remember that we are transformed by being joined to Christ in the Eucharist. Only a weighty reason should keep us from being sanctified through participation in and our reception of Christ's body and blood.

We have resumed our normal weekday and weekend Mass schedule.

Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday 4:30PM St. Marys

Sunday 7:30AM & 9AM St. Michaels (Mar—Oct)

Sunday 8AM & 9:30AM St. Michaels (Nov—Feb)

Sunday 10:30AM St. Marys (Mar—Oct)

Sunday 11:00AM St. Marys (Nov—Feb)

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Tuesday 9AM St. Marys

Wednesday 9AM – St. Michaels

Thursday 9:00 AM St. Marys

Friday 9:00 AM St. Michaels

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Wednesday 3:00 PM—4:00 PM St. Michaels (or anytime by appointment on Wednesdays & Fridays)

Saturday 3:30 PM—4:15 PM St. Marys (or anytime by appointment on Tuesdays & Thursdays)

We have a capacity limit of 85 people per Mass inside the sanctuary. We have plenty of room for you to join us safely. Pre-registration is NOT required. If you feel more comfortable, we have seats set up in the family center via closed Circuit T.V.

Please know that we are taking extra COVID-19 safety precautions:

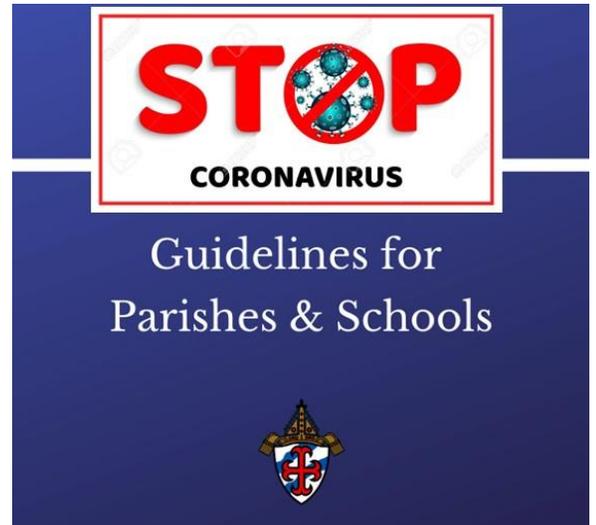
- The pews are cleaned and sanitized after EVERY Mass
- The pews are clearly marked for specific seating assignments
- We have social distancing tape lines for receiving communion
- Masks are to be worn by everyone attending Mass

After reading this, if you still have concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.



The pandemic is not over, and safety precautions must be followed, in order to promote the continued health and safety of everyone in our community. Your cooperation is vital as we take these steps:

- Limit the number of people inside at a given time to no more than 25% of the church's seating capacity. The family center will be used for overflow.
- We will not be using Hymnals.
- Social distancing **MUST** occur. Only people living in the same household may sit together. All others should remain 6 feet away in every direction from another individual who is not a member of their household. Please show patience with parents with young children.
- There should be no physical contact between parishioners (e.g. parishioners should not hold hands during the Our Father, (the invitation for the Sign of Peace will be omitted).
- **Masks or appropriate equivalent facial coverings MUST be worn by all participants 2 years and older** (i.e., by all those not performing a liturgical ministry).
- Place your offertory in the baskets located in the entry areas. There will be no passing of the collection basket.
- Only the priest will distribute Holy Communion so there will be some slight changes to receive communion. For the distribution of Holy Communion, the faithful keep their face covering in place while approaching in procession. At an identified position marked 6 feet from the minister, they should respond "Amen" and remove their face covering before coming forward for Holy Communion. Their face covering should be placed back on their face before proceeding to their seat. **Holy Communion must be received by hand. Gloves may not be worn.**
- All are encouraged to attend weekday Mass to help with the social distancing requirement.
- We urge anyone who is considered vulnerable due to age or underlying health conditions to remain at home.
- If you are sick, or have been exposed to anyone who is sick, please stay home.



The Parish Office has reopened for visitors. We will have new guidelines in effect.

- Due to space and social distancing guidelines only **TWO** people will be permitted in the office at a time.
- You must answer a series of questions before entering.
- You will have your temperature taken before entering.
- You must wear a mask while in the office.
- (these restrictions may change at any time due to instructions from the diocese and the state of Michigan)

As this is a situation, we Catholics have never experienced before, please be patient as we work through this extraordinary event together. Looking forward to celebrating Mass with you. If you have any questions, please call me at 616-901-0974.

Sincerely yours,

Fr. Ayub Francis Nasar (Pastor)