

St. Christopher and St. Margaret Mary Parish  
Grant City – Midland Beach  
130 Midland Avenue  
Staten Island, New York 10306  
718-351-2452

April 21, 2020

Dear Parents,

I don't need to tell you what a strange Lent and Easter we have had. I know it has been hard because of the illness, death, uncertainty, and sacrifice we all are making at this time. A lot of events and plans have been cancelled, changed, and postponed because of the coronavirus. You and your loved ones are in my prayers and private Masses.

This disruption to our schedule includes our First Holy Communion for our students on both May 2<sup>nd</sup> and May 9<sup>th</sup>. As you know, the First Holy Communion of a child is such an important part of the faith life of a child as Jesus comes to him or her in a real and abiding way in the Eucharist. For a new date, I was hoping to schedule one in June, but hesitated because I didn't want to schedule a new date only to have to change it again. So, I have decided it would be better to have a date far enough in the future which will not be affected by the current restrictions. I have decided to move the date to Saturday, October 3, 2020. The students of St. Christopher School will have their First Holy Communion at 10:00am at St. Christopher Church, and the students of our parish religious education will have their Mass at 12:30pm at St. Margaret Mary Church. I believe having this date will give the students some more time to prepare when returning for the new school year. As we continue through the spring and into the summer, continue to pray, read, and attend Mass (when the restrictions are lifted!), and we look forward to seeing you back in church. Until then, let us keep each other in prayer.

I am grateful to Mrs. Falabella and Mrs. Regan in helping me to make this adjustment, and more details will come when we have them.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Fr. Joe*

Rev. Joseph M. McLafferty  
Pastor