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St. John Vianney Catholic Church

*"I will show you the way to heaven."
– St. John Vianney*



May 21, 2020

SJV Newsletter

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Preparations are being made for you to come to Mass beginning May 30, 2020! There are goals for Mass to be a safe environment for you, and we desire to make this as smooth as possible. We are attempting to make this as fair and equal for everyone as is reasonably possible. Please keep in mind that this is new for everyone, so please do your best to be kind to your fellow neighbor. Just a reminder that the church is not a sterile environment, but we are doing our best to mitigate any spread of the virus. The external components to Mass will be different.

Keeping with Bishop Doherty's Decree from May 8, there are several key items to keep in mind (<https://dol-in.org/covid-19-updates>):

- Currently, everyone is dispensed from the obligation to attend Holy Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation until August 15.
- Those persons who are 65 and older and those with underlying medical conditions are urged not to attend any liturgies or sacraments at this time.
- The Saturday 4:30pm Vigil Mass at SJV will be specifically for those who are vulnerable to protect them from unnecessary interaction with the healthier/non-vulnerable population.
- Sunday Masses will be at 8:00am and 10:30am.
- The Precious Blood will not be distributed at Mass until further notice.
- The distribution of Holy Communion will occur immediately after Mass. After a person receives Holy Communion, they are to exit the church and make their prayer of thanksgiving outside. Remember you are a walking tabernacle at that time! This will assist with social distancing and the disinfecting of the church after Mass.
- Social Distancing of 6-feet has been taken into consideration and thus limits the occupancy of persons in the church to about 20% normal occupancy. Family members can sit together.
- Face masks are required for the assembly. If you don't have one, they will be provided for you upon your arrival for Mass. Please bring a face mask if you already have one so as to not quickly diminish the supply at SJV. As per the CDC, children under the age of 2 should not wear a face cloth.
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/cloth-face-coverings-information.pdf>
- There will be hand sanitizer for you to use when entering the church.
- Daily Masses will not immediately be public and will begin at a later date.

Realizing that there will be a reduction of the amount of people permitted in the church for Mass, this brings about many concerns. We certainly don't want individuals driving to Mass just to be turned away because the church is at capacity when that communication could have occurred prior to the trip. This would

cause unnecessary frustration; let alone if that happened at all three Masses for the weekend! Thus, you are invited to reserve seats at Mass using an online tool called *eventbrite.com*. Hopefully this will be a helpful tool to reserve your spot at Mass. You can make your reservations beginning Monday, May 25 at 7:00pm. For future Masses, you can only begin to reserve a pew spot the Monday prior to the intended weekend. A map has been attached at the end of this newsletter laying out how the seating will occur. A link will be posted to the parish website. You can find the events at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sjv-mass-1030am-may-31-registration-106145355616?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

Also, understanding that there are those who may find it difficult to reserve a spot online, you may call the office and leave a message at 317-485-0150 or you can submit information via

<https://sjvfishers.com/contact-us>. Reservations will not be available prior to Monday at 7:00pm and will be based on first come first serve.

Please realize that you may not be able to come to Mass and receive Holy Communion each weekend due to the limited occupancy of the church. Thus, I ask that once you have been able to attend Mass, please don't reserve a spot for the following weekend until the Thursday prior to that weekend Mass. This will hopefully allow those who have not been able to attend Mass to reserve a spot at Mass.

Allow me to close with some words from Sacred Scripture. *“Be subject to every human institution for the Lord’s sake, whether it be to the king as supreme or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the approval of those who do good. For it is the will of God that by doing good you may silence the ignorance of foolish people. Be free, yet without using freedom as a pretext for evil, but as slaves of God. Give honor to all, love the community, fear God, honor the king (1 Peter 2:13-17).*

St. John Vianney...pray for us!

In Christ,

Fr. Tony Rowland

P.S. See Map below...

