



S T A N N E P A R I S H F A M I L Y

Dear Parishioners of St. Anne,

With the reopening of the school year, we are excited to be able to welcome more parishioners who will be returning to Church on the weekends for Mass after this “long hiatus”. We have been preparing for an increase in attendance because we know that you miss the Church and the Mass and the community as we miss you. When we experience the physical presence of one another, being together to pray, we also experience and come to know Jesus better, too.

Gradually, we will also be re-starting other activities and events, and ministry groups will be able to meet again and get down to the business of sharing their faith and serving the community. A big thank you to the many volunteers who clean and disinfect the Church after each celebration. And a word of gratitude to all who come and diligently follow the protocols of the public health officials and the regulations of the Diocese, maintaining social distancing, wearing face masks that cover the nose, mouth and chin, and following the directions of the ushers.

Though our Region is doing fairly well in containing the spread of the virus, we are still called to be vigilant in this difficult COVID-19 pandemic period. There are elderly people and those with a weakened immune system who are not yet prepared to return to Church – and we would not encourage it for their safety and for the safety of all.

We realize that many parishioners have not been able to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist for a long time, not since mid-March when the Coronavirus appeared. So, we will continue with our online Sunday celebration of the Eucharist, praying together with those who join us at home. We will also continue the daily Scripture Reflection, both by email and on our parish social media platforms. While our Grade 3 children, who could not receive their First Holy Communion this past Spring, are preparing to receive Jesus next month, we are also thinking about other parishioners who need to be spiritually fed by the physical presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

COMMUNION CALLS AT HOME: Do you know of a homebound person – a relative, or a neighbour – who would like to receive Holy Communion at home? There are two ways you could help:

1. If you attend a weekend Mass regularly, you can bring Communion home to them. It's simple. We will give you a pyx (a small, gold-plated container used to carry the Eucharist). When you come for Communion, you place the open pyx in your hand: you will receive one consecrated host on your hand for you and one in the pyx to take home. Please phone the parish office and speak with me directly (or leave me a message and I will get back to you.) so you can get the pyx.
2. You can phone or email the parish office with your name and number or the name and number of the person who wants to receive Communion. The priests will then arrange a visit.

We are looking for Eucharist Ministers who would be willing to assist the priests in distributing Holy Communion to the homebound. Please call the parish office to volunteer for this important service to the community.

Please stay safe. Take care of yourself and one another.

Blessings.

Fr. Brian