



N.E.T. Catholic Faith Forward Plan

Updated June 6, 2020

Opening Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
All respond: And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray.

O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit,
did instruct the hearts of the faithful,
grant us in the same Spirit to be truly wise
and ever to rejoice in His consolation.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



New information June 6, 2020

- ▶ With state regulations updated to 25% Occupancy we will soon be able to welcome as many people as we can have in church while maintaining social distance
- ▶ For our churches this actually means about 15% occupancy, 85 people at All Saints, 75 at Holy Cross and 65 at Saint Anthony
- ▶ We begin preparation for this June 6.
- ▶ We will be ready to welcome 85, 75 and 65 people respectively beginning **June 16.**
- ▶ **Mass attendance will remain by invitation/sign up only** (call the office or sign up online)
- ▶ All other policies and procedures shared May 24 remain in place (masks, no restrooms, no crying rooms, no liturgical ministers, etc.)

From the Governor May 20

4. **Starting tomorrow, May 21st, religious gatherings of no more than 10 people will be allowed statewide.** Social distancing measures must be enforced and all participants must wear masks. Additionally, drive-in and parking lot services will be permitted. The state is convening an [Interfaith Advisory Council](#) to discuss proposals to safely bring back religious services.

From Our Bishop

In the same press conference, the Governor also mentioned “parking-lot services,” but without specificity of any sort. Some consideration has been given to the possibility of offering Holy Mass outside, which understandably presents many challenges, particularly meeting all of the following protocols, but not with the same ease. Again, we continue to await further clarification and necessary information before this can receive any further attention; at this point it is not feasible.

Please note that the Bishop has instructed that at this point outdoor services and parking lot services are not a possibility.

From Our Bishop

"The primary intent of all parishes is the celebration of Holy Mass with the faithful present for the administration of the Sacraments. Every other pastoral activity, while important to parish life, should remain limited and remote in order for our parishes first to be able gradually to give our people the opportunity to worship God and have greater access to the Sacraments. **This must remain our primary focus: to celebrate with our people Holy Mass and the Sacraments of the Church with the reverence due to them, particularly the care of the Most Blessed Sacrament, as well as taking all reasonable precautions to preserve the safety and health of the faithful and ordained ministers.** Thus, what we are able to offer our parishioners as we continue to function under restrictions, and what they should expect, will be quite different from that to which they may be accustomed. Patience and charity toward our neighbors, particularly the vulnerable, will greatly assist in a slow, but well-ordered transition back to Mass with the faithful present.



It must be noted that even with all precautions taken, there still will be a risk for anyone who attends a public gathering to contract the coronavirus. Anyone who is sick should stay home, as should anyone who fears contracting a disease by attending Mass. Parishioners who are vulnerable should remain at home in accordance with the recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC). For this reason, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass will remain suspended for all Catholics in the Diocese of Rochester until further notice. All Catholics, if it is possible for them, should be cautious to maintain their spiritual practices, to increase their prayer and to attend Mass online as well as other devotions and opportunities to grow in their faith."



The process of decision and communication

Please keep in mind that the fact that the governor communicates a modification of a given directive does not mean that this will immediately apply to our practice. We follow the instruction of our Bishop. This means that once the governor communicates something, we must wait to receive **instruction from our Bishop** who has been extremely diligent, supportive and helpful throughout this pandemic. We must be considerate and understand that he must carefully consider the realities of 86 parishes over 12 counties and attend to preserving the sacredness of the Sacraments before he can issue instructions in response to any new government directives and this might take a few days. We must also consider that once we receive directives from the Bishop, we too have to consider carefully how to best apply these faithfully and safely in our specific buildings and circumstances and once we make those decisions we need to set procedures in place to make this feasible which will also take time. **So please be patient and do not assume anything until things are clearly and directly communicated by us regarding our specific parish. Specific procedures and timing might differ even from our neighboring parishes**, so again make no assumptions and be understanding. We are all doing the best we can to continue to provide the sacraments and safeguard human life.



How is this going to go?

- ▶ We will resume the celebration of Mass with the presence of the Faithful on June 2, 2020
 - ▶ By state mandate, only 10 people are allowed in the church
 - ▶ **Attendance will be by invitation/sign up only**
 - ▶ We will call and invite those with no internet
 - ▶ We will send out a sign up genius to those with email
 - ▶ We will change our Mass schedule starting June 1, so more people have the opportunity to attend Sunday Mass.
 - ▶ **We will continue to stream Masses from Holy Cross (Wednesday 10:30 am, Sunday 8:30 am, Sunday 4:30 pm).**
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What will be the new Mass schedule?

Effective June 1

- ▶ Monday: No Mass
 - ▶ Tuesday 10:30 am Mass at Saint Anthony
 - ▶ Wednesday 10:30 am Mass at Holy Cross
 - ▶ Thursday 10:30 am Mass at All Saints
 - ▶ Friday: No Mass
 - ▶ Saturday
- 2:30 pm Sunday Vigil Mass at All Saints
- 4:30 pm Sunday Vigil Mass at Saint Anthony
- ▶ Sunday
- 8:30 am Mass at Holy Cross
- 10:30 am Mass at All Saints
- 2:00 pm Mass at Saint Anthony
- 4:30 pm Mass at Holy Cross



What will be different about Mass?

- ▶ We will keep ministers to a minimum so more people can come: Priest, Cantor (Dawn), Musician.
- ▶ There will be no Deacon, Lectors, Altar Servers, Greeters, Ushers, Sacristans, Choir, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.
- ▶ Every other pew will be roped off
- ▶ There will be signs indicating where you should sit
- ▶ Every one will be asked to keep 6 feet distance from others at all times (those who live together can sit together)
- ▶ Everything that is not essential will be removed to reduce cleaning and possibility of contamination. No extra furniture, no hymnals, no pew cards, no book of intercessions, etc.
- ▶ There will be no procession with the gifts, and no opening and closing processions.
- ▶ There will be no collection. You are asked to donate online or place your donation in the drop safe in the back of church.



What will be different about Mass? (Cont.)

- ▶ Access to the church will be through the front door only which will be propped open.
- ▶ Everyone over 2 years old will be asked to wear a mask (no exceptions). You should put your mask on before leaving your car and keep it on until you get back in your car.
- ▶ You will be asked to use hand sanitizer as you enter the church.
- ▶ You will be asked to remain still in your seat at the end of Mass until a minister indicates you can leave, so that we preserve social distance in leaving.
- ▶ There will be no gatherings before or after Mass, you are asked to leave and immediately get in your car.
- ▶ At this time, given the difficulty on maintaining social distance and rigorous and frequent cleaning **our restrooms will not be open** before, during or after Mass. Only the main church will be accessible



What will be different about Mass? (Cont.)

- ▶ Holy Water fonts and Baptismal fonts will remain empty
- ▶ There will be no Sign of peace
- ▶ There will be no holding hands at the Our Father or any other time
- ▶ There will be no congregational singing
- ▶ We will provide single use Worship aids that should NOT be left in church they are to be taken home or placed in the recycling bins on the way out of church.
- ▶ Crying rooms will be locked or otherwise roped off
- ▶ All frequent touch surfaces will be disinfected before and after each Mass



What about Holy Communion?

- ▶ There will be ONE station for distribution of Holy Communion in the front of the church
- ▶ At the usual time the priest will distribute Holy Communion wearing a mask.
- ▶ Holy Communion will be distributed in the Sacred Host. The Precious Blood will not be offered.
- ▶ When approaching for Communion, form a single line in the middle of the center aisle and remain six feet apart from others, observing the markings on the floor.
- ▶ After the priest or minister says, 'The Body of Christ' and you say, 'Amen,' approach the priest, stopping an arm's length from him.
- ▶ "If you wish to receive Holy Communion in the hand, lower your mask, extend your arms and open your hand up fully, receive Holy Communion, step away from the priest, and then consume the Sacred Host.



What about Holy Communion? (Cont.)

- ▶ Reception of Holy Communion on the tongue remains permissible, as required by the liturgical law of the Church, **with the admonition that the faithful should be strongly encouraged to receive Communion in the hand for the duration of the pandemic.**
- ▶ If you wish to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, **please come up last.** Then, lower your mask, extend your tongue fully and then move to the side to replace your mask. Then return to your pew by the side aisle.”
- ▶ Holy Communion may not be distributed with gloves, nor may it be received in the hand if a member of the faithful is wearing gloves
- ▶ When receiving Holy Communion, communicants should minimize the time when their mask is lowered.



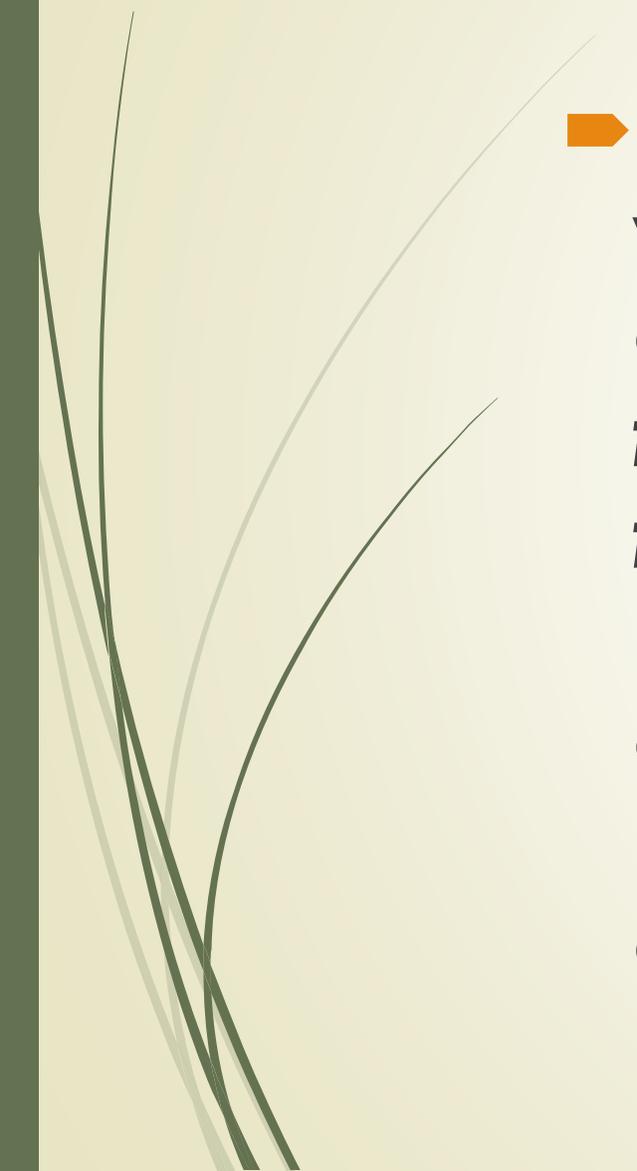
So wait, who can come to Mass?

Given the state restriction to a total of 10 people:

- ▶ **Attendance at Mass will be by invitation/sign up only**
 - ▶ We will call and invite those with no internet
 - ▶ We will send out a sign up genius to those with email so they can select the Mass, time and location they wish to attend.
 - ▶ We will then create a guest list for each Mass, **only those on the list will be allowed into the church.**
 - ▶ **So be on the look out for a call from Emmanuel between Tuesday and Thursday of this week (5/26-5/28) if we do not have your email, or a link to a sign up in your email on Friday (5/29) of this week if we have your email.**
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What about other devotions?

- ▶ Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, we will continue to offer our additional six opportunities for prayer. ***Please note that there will be no in person attendance of the faithful for any of these devotions*** (Angelus, Sacred Heart and Adoration and Benediction). All these will be livestreamed and we invite you to join us online.
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What about other Sacraments?

- Confessions are always available by appointment.
 - Anointing of the Sick is available by request.
 - Funerals, Baptisms and Holy Matrimony can be celebrated with a total of 10 people in the church.
 - First Eucharist and First Reconciliation will be rescheduled at a later date when more than 7 faithful can congregate.
 - Confirmation will be rescheduled by the Bishop at a later date,
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Will the churches still be open for private prayer?

- ▶ Yes, Effective June 1, the schedule will be as follows:
 - ▶ **Holy Cross** will be open Monday, Friday and Saturday 8 am-8 pm. It will be **closed** Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday.
 - ▶ **Saint Anthony** will be open 8 am-8 pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. It will be **closed** Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday.
 - ▶ **All Saints** will be open 8 am-8 pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. It will be **closed** Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.
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What about the parish office?

- ***Please note that our parish offices will continue to be closed. You can always request Mass intentions or obtain any information from the office by calling (607) 241-0821, Monday-Friday 8am-8pm or by emailing emmanuel.berrido@dor.org.***
 - ***The offices will open when we get directives both from the state and the Diocese allowing it, and no sooner than June 23, 2020, since we have to make modifications to allow for social distance. More about this will be communicated in the coming weeks.***
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What about other parish activities?

- ▶ ***ALL other parish ministries, gatherings, meetings and activities of all kinds will remain suspended until Labor Day. We will reassess at the end of August and communicate provisions for after Labor Day by September 3, 2020.***
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