

May 14, 2000: Some Wrinkles in the Process to Reopen the Churches

Because every parish has its own particularities and challenges each parish has to work through the issues around reopening in a way that fits for that community. One effect of that process is that not all parishes will be ready to reopen at the same time. This becomes an issue especially where parishes are located in close proximity to one another. In Marion County that is often the case, but it is true in Vigo County also. In light of that fact, the Office of Worship sent out the following instructions yesterday:

*Because parishes will be beginning to offer Mass and the other Sacraments on different start dates, the following note will be posted on the archindy website and may be promoted in your local plans and communication:*

*Archbishop Thompson and his staff are continuing to explore and evaluate all the possible ways the public celebration of Mass may resume in the many different parts of the archdiocese. Because the conditions and local restrictions vary in different parts of the archdiocese and because of the complexities of navigating all of the requirements of opening our churches and restarting public liturgical celebrations, all of the faithful are asked to only follow the timeline of and to attend the services at their home parish for the next month/until June 15th. This will enable parishes to more accurately assess the numbers of attendees and to communicate effectively with them before their arrival. So, while parishes may resume the public celebration of Mass at slightly different times, all parishioners are asked to only go to their home parishes for the next month.*