

St. Catherine Laboure Parish E-Newsletter
May 21st, 2020

Dear St. Catherine Laboure Parishioners,

I am happy to inform you that we will be able to begin to resume public Masses on the weekend of May 30/31 at 25% capacity, about 75 people per Mass. FYI: typical attendance at the Saturday evening Mass has never exceeded 75. Sunday Mass averages about 125. I am not worried about the numbers and I will not turn anyone away from Mass. The following guidelines are based on what the Diocese of Lansing has issued for the startup of public worship:

- If you in any way feel under the weather you should not attend Mass.
- Bring your own hand sanitizer.
- Bring your own facial mask (we are working at having reusable masks available)
- Social distancing will need to be observed. (Every other pew has been closed off.)
- Families will not need to observe social distancing in their pew.
- Use of bathroom facilities should be limited only for necessity.

During the Mass:

- There will be no ushers needed at this time.
- There will be no altar servers needed at this time.
- There will be no need for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at this time.
- There will be no passing of the collection basket. A basket in the main aisle will be provided for your offering.
- There will be no offertory procession.
- There will be no music or singing at this time.
- There will be no sign of peace or holding of hands.
- Holy Communion will only be given under one form (the sacred host).

As you can see, everything has been greatly scaled down. The main point is for us to begin to celebrate Mass together as a parish family. As time progresses, and with diocesan directives, things will gradually be added.

Sunday Mass Streaming

The current set up for live streaming the Mass will not be possible once the main aisle is in use. We are looking into the possibility of installing a permanent camera in the church. Until then, there might be a period of time when we will not be able to live stream the Sunday Mass for those who chose to remain at home.

Mass Intentions - We have open slots for June and July . See Parish Website. stcatherinelaboureconcord.org

Sacrament of Confession - Fr. Tim is available to hear Confessions and still by appointment only. You can call the office to make an appointment.

Parish Office - Leave messages on the office phone for non emergency items or email stcatherine92@yahoo.com The rectory phone is 517-524-6261 if you are in need of speaking with Fr. Tim.

Offertory Collection - (the # of envelopes is **not** the number of people contributing but actual envelopes - some have sent in multiple envelopes in one mailing)

May 17th - \$2,660.00 (\$4,432 weekly goal) 31 envelopes and 14 online

YTD Below Budget \$27,612

DSA 2020 - To Date Numbers -

Total Pledge \$17,285 (parish Goal is \$19,304), Total Pledges 63 of goal met 91%

St. Catherine Laboure Shrine Update - As reported earlier the cost for our new Shrine will be \$2,500: \$1,300 to have the statue repaired, stripped and repainted and \$1,200 for the electrical work done to have a light installed. **We have received 2 donations to help defray the cost for a total of \$200.**

Group Meetings - Please do not schedule any group meetings at this time. We have received no directives from the Diocese on any public meetings able to start up yet.

Driveway Project and Cupola - Alan Olson from the Diocese is working on both of these projects for us . We have received no word yet from him on when any of these projects will begin. As a refresher: the driveway needs to be redone to our satisfaction from the faulty work that was done last year. The next project for WTH funds was to get the Cupola leak fixed. Alan has recommended a contractor who has repaired other Churches cupola issues that we hope to be able to use. Obviously, everything is backed up due to the CoVid 19 pandemic.

Church Cleaning - All the carpets and rugs throughout the parish building have been cleaned this week. (cost \$705.00) We suspended our cleaning company when the pandemic first began. We are in the process of getting a bid from a different company so we can resume the cleaning of the parish with the start up of public Masses.

Live Streaming Masses - We have decided it would be best for our parish to have a permanent camera system installed to allow us to continue to live stream Masses. Our current set-up cannot be used for a regular setup - as it requires us to run a long cord from the offices up to the front of the Church. The new system would be installed through the ceiling with a much better camera and the sound would be installed through our sound system. The video and sound would be much improved. We recognize some of our parishioners may not be ready to come back to Mass and we want everyone to have the opportunity to be connected to our Parish even if it is remotely. This will also be nice in the future for those who may be feeling ill, are unable to get to Mass on a bad winter day or are laid up due to surgery etc.. and cannot attend Mass. We are getting a bid on the cost of the project. We will keep you posted.

Graduates - Congratulations to the seniors from our parish: Jimmy Kulas, Haden James and Baylor Keirns. If you would like to send them a card call the office for their address or see the parish directory. Our hearts go out to them on all the "last things" they miss out on and celebrations that they had to miss due to the pandemic.

Rosary - Live streaming the Rosary this Saturday - Intention is for those in Isolation.

Holy Spirit Novena - Begins this week starting Friday - see website if you have misplaced your Novena that was sent out last week.