

St. Catherine Laboure Parish E-Newsletter
May 28th, 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.

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

Sacrament of Penance - Fr. Tim will begin hearing confessions at the regular scheduled time (3:00-4:30 p.m) beginning this Saturday May 30th. If you are unable to make the Saturday time you may call Fr. Tim and set up a more convenient time.

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 24th - \$6,165 (\$4,432 weekly goal) 38 envelopes and 14 online
YTD Below Budget \$25,879

DSA to date numbers -

Total pledges -\$17,355 (\$19,304 - parish goal)

Number of pledges 64 pledged 91%

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.

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 additional donations this past week totalling \$700. To date donations: 4 donors \$900 total donations. We will continue to collect donations to help defray the cost of this project.**

Church Cleaning - A contract was signed with a new cleaning company. A husband and wife team who have been cleaning Churches for 17 years. We will be saving \$2,600 per year with the new cleaning company; as their bid is \$50 less a week than what our old cleaning company charged. They will also be cleaning and buffing our parish hall floors in the upcoming weeks for a cost of \$533. This includes the floors in the kitchen, St. Therese storage room and Sacristy.

Live Streaming Masses - A new camera/computer system will be installed soon (target date this Thursday or Friday). See our website or facebook page to stay current on our live streaming schedule. The cost for equipment and labor is about \$2,719. We will be using money in our education fund to pay for this upgrade. We felt it was justifiable to take it out of this account. Not only will it allow us to continue to bring the Mass to the homebound, but in the future we can also use this camera for a conference, lenten mission, spiritual retreat etc.. allowing more to attend if it live streamed or at least taped for future viewing. We also will be able to provide live streaming of funeral Masses. This will be a much higher quality than what we have been able to provide to home viewers these past weeks.

Fiscal Year End and next year's budget - Our fiscal year ends June 30th. We have managed to stay afloat thanks to so many of you and your continued financial commitment to St. Catherine's. We will give a full update later this summer as to actual expenses vs. actual collections. Next year's budget will be completed shortly so we have the most accurate weekly budget to help keep us on target throughout the year.

Mass Readers Needed - With public Masses starting back up - we will need to have one reader for 5 p.m. Mass and one reader for 10:30 a.m. Mass to start. The first weekend has been filled. Please contact Leslie Reagle if you would like to volunteer for any of the weeks in June.

First Friday Devotions: Will resume in September. (September 4th: begins at 11 am with Mass followed by Eucharistic Adoration)

