

Send to the St. John Vianney Parish Email distribution list, 12/3/20

To Parishioners and Guests of St. John Vianney Parish,

This week I spoke with representatives at the Vermont department of health COVID-19 response department, subsequent to notification from a parishioner who was at the 11:30 AM Mass on Sunday November 29th who, on the following day, Monday November 30th, developed symptoms of COVID-19 and then tested positive in the course of this week. The parishioner sat by themselves as a single-individual "household," and wore a face covering over nose and mouth the entire time while in church. While it is presumed that the parishioner had contracted the virus prior to attending the 11:30 AM Mass, the department of health Public Enquiries Team verified that even so our pew arrangements, physical distancing, and masking practices make for a very low risk of transmitting COVID-19. The department of health is not doing any contact tracing connected to this parish Mass, and it has merely given me the recommendation to make a general notification about this event, and about their judgment on the level of risk of COVID-19 transmission in this situation. Based on the level of risk, no one is being told to self-quarantine, and the parish office won't be making individual phone calls to every individual who attended the 11:30 AM Mass. Anyone who was at the Mass may speak with me directly for additional information on this update. Please be reminded, again, of the feasible precautions everyone can take to prevent the spread of COVID-19, even in such a scenario that we ourselves have contracted it but remain a-symptomatic. I offer my prayers for the currently-symptomatic/positive parishioner mentioned here (who, I may convey as well, has not at this time needed any specific medical care). I also enjoin your prayers for the prudence, safety and wellbeing of all who greatly impacted by COVID-19.

Sincerely, in Christ, Father Tim

[errors in previous notification corrected]