

THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER, APRIL 26, 2020

MASS SCHEDULE

Sat Apr 25	5:00 p.m.	+Richard Pagano
	7:30 p.m.	Brazilian Mass
Sun Apr 26	7:30 a.m.	Our Parishioners
	9:00 a.m.	+ Loan Huynh
	10:30 a.m.	+ Frances Van Zanten
	12:00 N	+ Raul Bellido
	5:00 p.m.	Spanish Mass
Mon Apr 27	7:30 a.m.	+ Leeman Strout
	12:10 N	+ Keane Family
Tues Apr 28	7:30 a.m.	+ Sandra Palanzo
	12:10 N	+ Souls in Purgatory
Wed Apr 29	7:30 a.m.	+ Tony Settembrino and Jay Ciliberto
	12:10 N	+ Katherine Sapoci
Thu Apr 30	7:30 a.m.	+ Raymond O'Marra
	12:10 N	+ Thomas J. Gallagher Family
Fri May 1	7:30 a.m.	+ Rev. Joseph Joaquin
	12:10 N	+ Souls in Purgatory
Sat May 2	7:30 a.m.	+ Denilson Pereira da Silva
	5:00 p.m.	+ Talarico Family
	7:30 p.m.	Brazilian
Sun May 3	7:30 a.m.	Our Parishioners
	9:00 a.m.	+ Maria Ta
	10:30 a.m.	+ Mary Beth Garavel
	12:00 N	+ Dorothy & Bernard Pane
	5:00 p.m.	Spanish Mass
	7:30 p.m.	Brazilian Mass

This week the sanctuary lamp burns

in memory of

Gerri Cuccio

***We offer our condolences to
the families of***

Natalie Moreno

Msgr. Roger J. Watts

who passed away this week.

From the Pastor's Desk ---

Governor Lamont's executive order extending the safety measures through May 20 did not exactly come as a surprise, but it brought with it further disappointment. As soon as we heard of it, Barbara Siano and I knew that we had to address the celebration of First Communion. We were hoping that there would be a return to public liturgical celebrations by the beginning of May. We anticipated that the return to church would come with some restrictions, but nevertheless we would have First Communion in May. That is clearly not the case. We really and truly do not want to put off First Communion more than is necessary so we chose dates, working around weddings, and formed a plan which you see on the following page. We anticipate that the State will require a measure of social distancing. We do not know what that may be, but we split the English language ceremony into two and placed a cap on the number of guests per family in order to make provision for it. Please do not get annoyed at the restrictions. We planned for the tightest regulations—we had to. We can ease up according to what the State mandates in June. It is fairer to roll back than for us to give false expectations. The date for the celebration of Confirmation is completely out of our hands. The Bishop's office is trying to fit into the calendar the spring and fall Confirmations. That's a huge challenge. Our concern is our size. We have 78 candidates. We can handle that many with sponsors and 5 guests per candidate at one Mass as we did last year. But, will we be allowed to have 550 people gathered? We are guessing not. We will see what solution is worked out.

As for weekday and Sunday Masses, we are now pushed to a time after May 20 when we can open. Bishop Caggiano is conducting conference calls this week to talk about the manner by which we will be able to resume.

I am thinking of you all. God bless you.

--- Fr. Mecca

COMMUNITY CONCERNS COMMITTEE—

We are reaching out to our extended Saint Peter parish family to help single moms and families pay their rent and supplement their food supply during this difficult period.

We are relying on your support to help us with this project by sending any monetary contribution that you can afford so that we may purchase food cards and mail checks directly to landlords.

Please send your donations to the rectory and indicate their use for the Good Samaritan Fund. We pray that each of you remain healthy and grow closer to our loving God, who is suffering alongside each of us.

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RELIGIOUS EDUCATION —

Sacramental Masses — Updated Information

Below is a draft of our tentative plan to ensure that the First Communion and Confirmation Masses will take place. This may change based on further directives from the government and the Diocese, but please understand that we are committed to bestowing the Sacraments with the upmost reverence and tradition. At the same time, we must also uphold good practices to ensure the safety and health of all. This virus has certainly changed the way we must do things, and we greatly appreciate your understanding of these directives.

FIRST COMMUNION MASSES

- The new projected date is **June 20**. If we **cannot worship** by this date our next projected date for First Communion is **July 11**.
- Anticipating the continuation of some measure of social distancing, we are planning for three Masses so that the number of people gathered is within issued limits:

9:00 am – St. Peter School families

11:00 am – Spanish speaking Religious Education families

1:00 pm – English speaking Religious Education families

- Rehearsal date will be determined once we have received approval to conduct services in the church and the actual date is known.
- Only the child receiving First Communion and two adults will be allowed to attend. Adults will be required to wear a face mask/covering.
- Pews will be pre-assigned for each family and spaced apart from other families.
- Photos and/or videos will not be permitted during the Mass. Photos will be allowed after the Mass by row. Once the photo is taken the family must leave the church.
- We will live stream the Mass so your other family members can view online – details will be provided as we get closer to the date.

CONFIRMATION MASS

- The Bishop has postponed all Confirmation Masses until the fall. Dates will be assigned by the Bishop's office. Once we know the date, we will inform all families.
- Anticipating the continuation of some measure of social distancing, one ceremony with a full church may not be allowed. In this case, we will have two Confirmation Masses so that the number of people gathered is within issued limits. If the ceremony is split, candidates will be notified which Mass to attend.
- Only the Confirmation candidate, their sponsor and two adults will be allowed to attend.
- Adults will be required to wear face masks/coverings.
- Pews will be pre-assigned for each family and spaced apart from other families.
- We will live stream the Mass in order for other family members to view online – details will be provided as we get closer to the date.

Again, we stress that these are our tentative plans based upon the projections that we are hearing today, April 17. As you know, everything changes daily. We will modify our plans according to government and diocesan guidelines as they are issued. Of course, we will update you as we receive new information as well as when we receive confirmed date(s) from the Bishop's Office.