



Dear Parishioners,

On the advice of the Pastoral Council, I have adopted the following plan for the reopening of our parish.

In order to prepare the men and women who will be assisting with the many tasks of reopening the church and to provide them adequate time to acquaint themselves with their new tasks, St. Patrick Parish will reopen for public Masses on Wednesday, June 24th at 9:00 am. Registration information will follow shortly.

On the weekend of June 27th and 28th (Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.) the church will reopen for the Sunday celebration of the Eucharist. This will re-establish the weekday or daily Mass schedule of Mass offered on Tuesdays – Fridays at 9:00 a.m. and the regular Sunday celebrations of Mass.

The directives for celebrating Mass in the reopened church apply equally to weekdays as to Sundays. We will need parishioners to (1) meet at the Steeple Hill doors those who have pre-registered with the parish, (2) ensure participants are maintaining social distance as per the seating plan of the church, (3) facilitate the proper procession for communion, and (4) clean/sanitize the church following the Mass.

I am sure that everyone would have wanted the church reopened this weekend; however, for the health and safety of all who will worship here, we need the added time to prepare properly.

Please be aware: If we do not have parishioners in place to meet the requirements of the directives we cannot reopen. You can still sign up as a volunteer by filling out this form: <https://forms.gle/EBs4RfDYx5fjXu4o7>

Please be aware: Public Health officials can make “surprise” visits to ensure the requirements are being met. If it is observed that they are not being met, these officials have the right and duty to close the church immediately.

The challenges of living with a pandemic are not yet behind us. We are entering upon a new and, for us uncharted, path. Please be patient with me, the parish leadership, and those who are assisting at the celebration of Mass. We have to get it right from the very beginning. We are taking the needed time to ensure that everything is done correctly and safely for all parishioners.

Thank you for your understanding and patience, when these will be called upon in the days and weeks ahead.

Rev Paul Shepherd