

## **OLPH COVID-19 ANNOUNCEMENT – OCTOBER 5, 2020**

Dear Parishioners and Friends of OLPH,

New York City is experiencing an uptick in positive Covid-19 tests, especially in 9 neighborhoods or zip codes. One neighborhood, Borough Park (11219), is bordering on Sunset Park (11220). It goes from 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue to 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Dahill Road, and from 65<sup>th</sup> Street to 37<sup>th</sup> Street to 36<sup>th</sup> Street to Church Ave. Some parishioners of OLPH live in Borough Park.

At OLPH we celebrate 10 Masses every weekend. There are 1,000 parishioners on average who participate. We are also celebrating baptisms and funerals. On September 26 and October 3, a total of 180 children received their First Communion. We give thanks to God for the participation of so many parishioners. We continue to observe all the protocols to keep our church safe and sanitized for our celebrations.

**IF YOU ARE SICK ... IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING ANY SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 ... .. PLEASE STAY HOME ... AND FOLLOW THE INDICATIONS OF THE CDC AS FOLLOWS:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>

**IF YOU KNOW YOU WERE IN CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 ... PLEASE STAY HOME... AND FOLLOW THE INDICATIONS OF THE CDC AS FOLLOWS:**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

When you come to church, please observe the protocols that the CDC and the Brooklyn Diocese have put in place so that we can safely celebrate Mass and the Sacraments:

- Face masks that cover nose and mouth. No one is to be in church without a face covering.
- Social distancing: the church is marked and the ushers are helping parishioners be seated according to these norms. Please follow the ushers' indications.
- Those who live in the same household may sit together. Those who come as individuals are to sit appropriately distanced from their neighbor.
- Single file for Holy Communion. Communion in the hand, to be received immediately.
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

There have been cases of persons who tested positive have been to OLPH for Mass. All the more reason to observe all the protocols to keep us safe.

May Our Lady of Perpetual Help protect us and bless us!

Fr. James Gilmour, C.Ss.R.

Pastor