

May 20, 2020

My Dear Parishioners,

As promised, the Catholic Bishops of Minnesota have decided to move forward with the limited public celebration of the Mass, beginning on next Tuesday, May 26, 2020. All Masses will be required to be kept below one-third of the Church's seating capacity, and of course, social distancing, proper hygiene such as hand-washing and hand sanitizing will be required. The wearing of masks is highly encouraged.

This move forward is of course in opposition to Governor Walz's current Stay Safe Minnesota Executive Order, which we learned today at his press conference, continues to limit in-person church services, ***whether held inside the Church or outside***, to ten persons, even while he announced today that bars and restaurants are allowed beginning June 1st to serve up to 50 patrons at a time outside on patios and decks.

I **strongly urge** all parishioners to please read the attached letter carefully and in its entirety. It is critical at this time that Catholics be well-informed of the decisions that their bishops and leaders have made and also the reasons why they have made them. Again, please read the attached letter in its entirety so as to be fully informed of the nature of this situation. You will notice that the letter has been signed by all of the bishops of the state of Minnesota.

I plan to send out another email to all parishioners sometime on this Friday, detailing the specifics of what this decision will look like for our parishes. For now, I ask that you please keep our bishops and specifically our Diocesan Administrator, Father Bissonette in your prayers. God is with us and He will guide us!

God bless you!

Fr. Steve Laflamme