

June 15, 2020

HOLY FAMILY PARISH IS REOPENING !!!

(in a limited capacity)

Dear Parishioner:

WELCOME BACK! For your information:

A general dispensation from the Sunday obligation of attending Mass is still in effect.

COVID-19 is still a threat to public health, especially to the elderly, and those with pre-existing conditions and immune deficiency should stay home to lower their risk of contracting the virus.

If you have any symptoms of COVID-19, such as cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose, or sore throat, you must stay home.

Attendance at Masses is limited. We are in stage one of re-opening which is **a maximum of 30% capacity or 45 parishioners maximum per Mass**. This also applies to funerals and weddings.

Initially, seating will take place on a “first come, first served” basis.

All parishioners must wear non-medical or homemade face masks while attending Mass (except for those under age 5). Those who have medical reasons for not wearing a facemask should not attend Mass.

Physical distancing of 6 feet or 2 metres must be adhered to at all times and in all directions between parishioners who are not from the same household.

Proper hand hygiene, using sanitizer, is required on entering and exiting the Church.

Hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds is required in the washroom facilities.

Please cover mouth and nose with elbow when coughing or sneezing. Wash or sanitize hands after.

Please refrain from contact with high-touch/shared surfaces as much as possible.

Safety is number one so disinfecting of pews and high-touch surfaces and washrooms will occur after each Mass.

Your name, phone number, and e-mail (if applicable and agreeable) will be recorded upon entrance to the Church in order to be able to trace contacts with Algoma Public Health in the event a parishioner tests positive for COVID-19.

Ushers will escort you to a seating area, based on your family unit of one, two, or more living in the same household, and beginning from the front end of the Church to the back and exiting Mass from the back to the front, always maintaining physical distance of six feet or two metres.

Liturgical changes will occur in how we celebrate Mass and receive Holy Communion.

A general “Amen” response to “Body of Christ” will occur by the whole parish before approaching to receive **Holy Communion**.

It is not necessary to receive **Holy Communion** during Mass and once can legitimately remain in one’s seat.

Holy Communion, while observing physical distancing in approach, may only be received in the hand while your facemask is still on. Take a few steps to the side, remove your mask on one side using the elasticized ear hook, place the host in your mouth, then re-engage your mask and continue to your seating area. No congregational singing other than responses “Amen” and “And with your spirit”. Spoken responses should be in a low voice.

There will be no physical contact. Please use a smile, bow or wave during the exchange of peace signs.

All hymn and prayer books and other papers have been removed from pews as they are difficult to sanitize. You may bring and use your own prayer book and take it home without contact or sharing with others.

No collections will be taken. Please deposit any donations in the secure container provided after entering the Church.

No congregating or socializing of parishioners before or after Mass.

Volunteers are requested to serve as entrance greeters, ushers, cleaners of pews, elevators and washrooms during and after each Mass. You may call the Secretary or Father at 705-253-5523 to submit your name.