



CHURCH OF SAINT ADALBERT

2347 East 83rd Street • Cleveland, Ohio 44104 • (216) 881-7647

May 24, 2020

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO READ THIS IMPORTANT LETTER.

You may have heard that the Bishops of Ohio have set the Feast of Pentecost (May 31) for the return of the public celebration of Weekend Masses. I have studied the recommendations of the Diocese and have consulted medical professionals as well as other pastors on how we can do this and, at the same time, try to protect the health and safety of those who choose to participate. I have also asked on Flocknote how many of you plan on returning to Mass that weekend. Twenty-four parishioners responded with the results indicating that one half (50%) plan on staying away for the time being and 50% are hoping to return that weekend. **I WANT TO REMIND YOU THAT THE OBLIGATION FOR ALL CATHOLICS TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE DISPENSED. THERE IS NO OBLIGATION FOR ANYONE, YOUNG OR OLD, HEALTHY OR SICK, TO COME TO MASS YET.**

I also want to emphasize that we will continue to broadcast one daily mass and one weekend mass (with music) every day just as we are doing now. The information below is for attending mass Live.

While no plan is perfect or will satisfy everyone, here is what we will do:

1. There will be one Live Sunday Mass in St. Adalbert Church at 11am.
 2. The church pews will be marked with blue tape to indicate where people can sit and maintain social distance. There will also be tape on the floor of the main aisle to help you keep proper distance as you approach the altar for Holy Communion.
 3. Facemasks **must** be worn by all who attend. We will have some facemasks for anyone who may not have one. Hand sanitizer will be available at the entrances of the church.
 4. Extra instructions about the reception of Holy Communion and other procedures will be printed and waiting for you in your pew as well as announced during Mass.
 5. For the time being there will be neither holy water fonts, nor receiving from the cup, nor offertory procession, nor sign of peace. Receiving communion in the hand is strongly encouraged. Sadly, there will be no congregational singing. There will be no coffee hour after Mass.
 6. The traditional procession to the altar for church offerings will be suspended for the time being. A basket will be placed in front of the altar for your offertory. But we strongly encourage you, to minimize the handling of checks, to use my e-offering. Information on my e-offering is found at <https://members.myeoffering.com/#/landing>
 7. Confessions will be available by way of appointment in the church office (convent) on any day. Please call Fr. Gary or Fr. Nicholaus at 216-421-4211.
- (over)

All this being said those who are elderly and their caregivers or those with underlying health issues are encouraged to stay home. If you have an elevated temperature or are not feeling well, you are asked to stay at home. If attending Mass will be more an occasion of anxiety than a source of consolation, please do stay home. We will continue to send links for daily and weekend Masses to all parishioners for whom we have an email address and begin live streaming as soon as we are able. To that end I ask those who have not updated their contact information to go to <https://stadalbertschool.net/st-adalbert-parish> to complete the update on line. If you do not have access to a computer or email, please call the rectory office to make sure your contact information is up to date.

Finally, it must be stressed that while we are doing everything possible to decrease the chance of infection, this does **NOT** guarantee freedom from the possibility of infection.

Again, I ask your patience as we travel this uncharted road together. In all things let us ask Mary, Our Lady of The Blessed Sacrament and St. Adalbert, to pray for us and for an end to this pandemic.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Fr. Gary Chmura". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Fr. Gary Chmura
Pastor