

Guidelines for Attendance of Mass During the Covid 19 Pandemic
(As of 6/10/2020)

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Our Lady of the Pines and St. Theodore's Parishes:

Along with the 'Task Force of our Parishes for Reopening Church', I am happy to welcome you to celebrate Mass together in our parish Churches. We are pleased to announce that we will be prepared and ready for public Masses, starting on Pentecost Sunday, that is Sunday, **May 31st**. Following the safety protocols of Minnesota Health Department, CDC Guidelines and the Directions of the Diocese of Crookston, our Task Force has created a plan for maintaining proper social distancing and good hygiene that is required of our parishes. I want to pass on some information as we go forward.

Specific Guidelines:

For this plan to work, we offer you following specific guidelines for our parishes:

- ❖ You are required to wear a mask when you come to Mass. Please bring your own masks.
- ❖ Six feet distance between families or individuals must be maintained at all time.
- ❖ Pews are marked off with painters tape. Please use only the open pews.
- ❖ There will be NO Congregational Singing. Hymnals & Worship Aids will not be used.
- ❖ Offertory Baskets will be placed at the Gathering Place of our Church. Please drop your Sunday offerings in the basket as you come in.
- ❖ Holy Communion will be received by hand only. Precious Blood will not be served.
- ❖ Liturgical ministers will be personally contacted.
- ❖ Hospitality after Mass is discontinued until further notice.
- ❖ The pews, doors and restrooms are sanitized after the Mass. Please do not linger in the Church following the Mass.
- ❖ If you are in a greater risk category, please **DO NOT ATTEND MASS**. We encourage those over the age of 65 or who are especially vulnerable **NOT** to attend. But we will not turn you away, if you choose to come.
- ❖ Once again, please be reminded that the Obligation to attend Mass is still dispensed. **If your health is compromised or you do not feel safe coming to Mass, PLEASE stay home.**

I thank you for your patience during this time. We believe that our communal efforts will support one another and will show our love for each other. With our efforts, prudence and God's grace, we will endure and face our challenges as we come to worship. Welcome back to Church!

Peace to you and all you love,

Fr. A. Fernando
Our Lady of the Pines and St. Theodore's Churches.
Nevis – Laporte, MN