



In a few short days we will celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost! I look forward to this feast day with great joy and hope. This final feast of the Easter Season recalls the event that enabled, empowered and emboldened Jesus' disciples to exit their safe haven in the Upper Room and begin to do as he commanded. Go out to all the world. Serve others. Love one another as I have loved you.

The coming of the Holy Spirit gifted the disciples with what they needed to break free from their self-imposed but necessary seclusion. It gave them the strength to address and overcome their fears, doubts, confusion and anxiety. The coming of the Holy Spirit reminded them of all that Jesus had said, did and alluded to. Then, with the confidence of these truths, they discovered how to see their life and the world through the eyes of faith and share that vision with others. They learned to draw from all that was good and right and of value from their past and, enlightened by the Spirit's constant presence, discern what was essential and beneficial to carrying on the work that Jesus began.

The same Spirit with the same Gifts comes to each of us this Pentecost and always. As we emerge from our safe havens and begin to move beyond the fears, doubts, confusion and anxieties that have overwhelmed so many these past 15 months, we too are learning to appreciate what was good and right and of value to us and to the world pre-Covid and discovering what is needed and beneficial to shaping our lives and our world as we move forward! May we always remember, never forget that the guidance of the Holy Spirit is with us always as **WE** now continue the work that Jesus began...the work of bringing Christ to all the world by serving others and loving one another as we have been loved by God! Unfortunately, there is no concrete blueprint for how to go about the business of re-opening! However, if we treat ourselves and others with patience, kindness, selflessness and charity, I believe everything will work together for the good of all!

GUIDELINES AND NOTES FOR MASS AND PARISH EVENTS

As we reopen and prepare for the return to public worship for more of our parish family, please be aware of the following new and continuing guidelines:

- The dispensation from Sunday obligation has been withdrawn. All Catholics are invited to resume worshipping and giving thanks to God in Church.
- To make Sunday Worship available to more of our parishioners and guests we will add a 7:30 AM Mass on Sunday starting on June 6th.
- Live streamed Mass on Sunday at 10:00 AM will continue for those unable to attend in person for legitimate reasons.
- Those with conditions or illnesses that leave them susceptible to catching from or spreading illness to others are dispensed from public worship. In addition, those who are caregivers for someone in the home or a facility who are ill or susceptible due to age or vulnerability are dispensed from the Sunday obligation.
- If you are unsure if a dispensation is available to you, please call the office to speak with Fr. Bert.
- Facemasks are no longer required for fully vaccinated people either at Mass or other Church events. Of course, you are welcome to continue wearing a facemask if you so desire.
- Unvaccinated people are required to wear a face mask, following the honor system.
- Safe six-foot distancing is no longer required. However, to accommodate those who are unvaccinated and those who wish to continue to practice safe distancing we will leave one half of both the front and back sections of our pews marked for distance seating. Those who choose to sit in these areas should also wear a face mask. We will continue to welcome all worshippers through the main Church doors.
- Parishioner Ushers will continue to greet you as you enter and assist you, if needed to find seating. In the near future we will also begin passing the collection basket at offertory time.
- We will continue the practices adopted over the last few months with regard to the reception of Communion. We will distribute from both the front and crossover at the same time. We will also continue to distribute to one side and then the other.
- While distancing is no longer required in processions, the Communion procession is very reverent and peaceful with the distancing. Please continue to observe the markings on the floor and allow for this spacing between you and the person in front of you.
- Singing is once again allowed.
- The Sign of Peace should be contactless with those outside of your household.
- The notes regarding masks and safe distancing apply to all Parish events and meetings.

We joyfully welcome home all who will begin to worship again in person.
If you have concerns or questions not addressed here, please call to speak to me,
Deacon. Dan or one of your staff members.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

***Come Holy Spirit and fill my heart with your gifts.
Let my love be true and my charity be generous.
Help me in all my deeds and grant me knowledge to do what is right.
Advise me in my doubts, strengthen me in my weakness,
Protect me when I am tempted and console me when I am afraid.
Graciously hear me, O Holy Spirit,
and pour your light into my heart, mind and soul.
Help me to live a holy life and grow in goodness and grace. Amen!***