



Saint Jude Parish

PARISH TELEPHONES

Parish Office	603-432-3333
Faith Formation Office	603-437-7026
RCIA/Adult Faith Formation and Youth Ministry Office	603-425-1795
Website	www.stjudenh.com
E-mail:	sgreen@stjudenh.com

Dear parishioners,

First of all, I hope this letter finds you both safe and well. Adjusting to this new normal, staying at home more frequently, wearing masks when out social distancing, is not easy but we do what we must be done for the safety of those we love and those around us.

Secondly, as the state slowly begins to re-open, you may not be aware that Bishop Libasci has granted permission to begin weekday and weekend Masses with the public. We plan to return to our Mass schedule this weekend hoping it goes well for all. Mass will take place at 4PM on Saturday, June 6th and on Sunday, June 7th, Mass at 8 AM, 10AM and 12 noon. Note that Masses will be limited to approximately 40 people due to safe social distancing, and those 40 will be escorted to a seat on a first come first served basis. When you come to Mass you will notice other obvious changes.

Only one entrance to the church will be available: the front door ONLY. You may not enter the church any other way. Those who cannot climb stairs should not attend Mass. Those who are 65 years old and older with health issues or have people at home with health issues should not attend Mass. Please use common sense and protect yourself and those at home.

If you are unable to attend Mass due to the above-mentioned difficulties, we will be happy to give you communion after each mass from the safety and comfort of your car. We ask you to use the handicap parking spaces on the rectory side of the church, if possible, if you are receiving Communion in your car.

Masks are required for everyone in the church. **6-foot** social distancing will be observed (each household will count as one person for this purpose). To accomplish this, please follow the directions of the volunteers (note that this means that you may not be sitting in your usual spot). Once we reach the maximum capacity, we will not be able to allow more people into the church. Please be patient and charitable around this.

Missalettes and hymnals will not be available. There will be no singing from the congregation (this is to limit the spread of molecules through the air). We will speak the responses and acclamations that we normally would sing. **Stationary collection baskets** will be available at the exits of the church for those who are not utilizing electronic giving and instead have brought donations with you.

Finally, in order to minimize movement in the church, we are following an option that the Bishop has given us, and we will be distributing the Eucharist AFTER the final blessing and dismissal. Volunteers will direct this movement, and everyone will depart after receiving. As we did last weekend with the distribution of the Eucharist, we ask that those who have received spend some time on arrival back home to thank God for the great gift of the Eucharist. Once people have left the church, a crew of volunteers will clean and disinfect before the next Mass.

Please remember that the Bishop has suspended the obligation to attend Masses on Sundays and Holy Days. Thus, there is no Sunday Mass obligation in effect. So, you may consider attending our daily Mass on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday mornings at 8. Once again seating will be limited to approximately 40 people. Also, we will continue recording and posting a weekly Mass on Sundays.

All of these new and temporary measures are being put into place for the health and safety not just of all of us but also of people that we might come into contact with in the days following our attendance at Mass. So, while these measures may seem novel to us, they are absolutely in keeping with the sacrificial love that is what the Eucharist ultimately is all about. As I am sure you will agree, giving up small bits of comfort and convenience is a small price to pay to help ensure the health of our brothers and sisters.

Until we meet again, please stay healthy and safe.

In God's love & peace,

Fr. Bob Gorski