June 10, 2020

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

I am pleased to announce that as of this Saturday, June 13, 2020 we will resume our regular Mass schedule while maintaining safety protocols.

Please note the following:

* Until further notice, Catholics who are most vulnerable and not feeling well in the Diocese of Buffalo continue to be dispensed from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays.
* Wear a face mass when attending Mass and on the grounds. Bring your own hand sanitizer.
* Pay attention to signs and markings in the church.
* Gloves are optional and not allowed when receiving Holy Communion.
* Maintain safe physical distance from non-household members.
* Pay attention to the Ushers as they will guide you in seating, receiving Holy Communion and dismissal.
* Parishioners will be seated in front pews first and will depart from the back pews first.
* Collection •Congregants are encouraged to place their gift in the baskets by the Usher prior to Mass, as they are being seated
* There is NO Sign of Peace
* Reception of Communion: •Those receiving Communion will come down the center aisle and return to your seat through the side aisle. The procession should form slowly, with six feet between those awaiting reception of Communion. Floor markings will be placed as a guide and ushers will help to maintain this distance.
* Parishioners should remain masked until it is time for them to receive, and then return immediately to the mask. •Distribution of the Precious Blood is suspended. •As a temporary measure due to the current pandemic, Communion is to be distributed in the hand only, not on the tongue.
* Ministers and communicants alike must be instructed in this method of reception. •The exact hand is not what matters, but that the “throne” must be ﬂat, a secure place to receive Communion.
* Approaching, then, do not come with your hands extended or with your ﬁngers open. But make a throne with your left hand for the right, as intending to receive the King, and having made a hollow in your hand, receive the body of Christ, after which you say “Amen.” — Mystagogical Catecheses, 5.21
* Ministers should not place communion in the hand, risking touch, but rather “drop” the consecrated host from a few inches above the hand. •The usual formula is to be used (V. “The Body of Christ” R. “Amen.”)
* The use of gloves (for reception or administration of communion) and/or tongs or other devices is prohibited and does not decrease the risk of contagion. Again, the cleanliness of the minister’s hands is crucial. •
* Fellowship At this time, fellowship is to be discouraged in all forms, including greeting the people at the doors of the church by the celebrant after Mass. This could encourage gatherings larger than the allowable limit. This may be revised as medical/civil guidance is revised.
* Leaving the Church •As in the beginning of Mass, there should be a simple procession from the sanctuary to the sacristy by the priest alone. •Celebrants/ministers should not greet people at the door, as this may encourage gathering in close proximity.
* There is no Congregational singing.
* Until further notice weekday Masses will be celebrated in the Church. Please note that

we are in need of weekday Mass Intentions and as of Monday, June 15th weekday Masses will only be held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. They can be scheduled by calling the Parish Office.

God bless as we work together as a parish family during this time to be safe and adjust to the present new normal. Any questions or concerns please call the Parish Office.

Sincerely,

Rev. Michael H. Burzynski, Ph.D

Administrator