

## WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU RETURN TO MASS AT ST. PATRICK'S

- Welcome Back!
- Before deciding to come to church, it is important that you care for your own health. Please check your temperature and family members. If any family members have a fever, please remain home for the health and safety of all and consult your family doctor.
- If you exhibit any of the following symptoms, please remain home at this time – cough, fatigue, loss of appetite, shortness of breath, muscle aches, loss of taste or smell, headache, runny nose, sore throat, chills with shakes.
- Attendees and volunteers from demographic groups that are at a great risk of serious illness, such as people 65 years of age or older and individuals with chronic medical conditions, are encouraged to stay safe by avoiding public gatherings, but not prohibited from attending these liturgical celebrations if they so choose.
- The use of masks and face coverings are recommended but not mandatory at this time. Parishioners must provide their own masks or face coverings.

## UPON ARRIVAL AT THE CHURCH

- The Church will be unlocked and opened by the Ushers ½ hour (30 minutes) prior to Mass. This is necessary in order to ensure proper sanitizing takes place between each mass.
- **The Ushers assigned for each mass are responsible to ensure each Parishioner and visitor is seated in accordance with physical distancing guidelines and within the rules outlined by the Archdiocese. The Ushers are considered to have the final decision with respect to seating and movement within the church and the main hall. It is essential that parishioners and visitors follow the direction and decision of the Ushers.**
- There will be no Altar Servers at this time.
- Washrooms are only to be used if absolutely necessary.
- Parishioners are directed to the main church doors as the entrance to the main hall is locked. (If you require access through the main hall, please call 613-354-3039). In the event the church capacity is filled, the Ushers will unlock the main hall and direct Parishioners to a seat in the main hall.
- Maintain physical distancing at all times – two metres (6 feet) from others, in the parking lot, church entrance and in church itself.
- If you are wearing a mask, please put on mask/face covering before entering church.
- Upon entering the church, you will be asked to utilize hand sanitizer.

- The Ushers will direct you to an assigned seat and it is important to follow their direction to ensure physical distancing requirements are met. Seating will be filled from the front of the church to the back and is set up to maintain physical distancing. Ushers will sit family and household members together in a designated pew.
- There are no prayer books in the pews; you can bring your own prayer book but it is important that you take it with you when you leave.
- If you wish to purchase the daily mass booklet and/or the Sunday Missal, (sanitized) they will be available for purchase at the back of the church. The daily mass booklet (\$2.00) and the Sunday Missal (\$3.00). You can deposit funds in the designated box.
- There will be no singing during mass.
- The Holy Water fonts will be empty and not in use.
- Parish Bulletins will not be published at this time.
- The air conditioning and fans will not be turned on at this time.
- The celebration of mass will be no longer than 30 minutes (...except I think Father has been saving up and has a 90 minute homily prepared – looks like he will be downsizing...in a major way!!!)
- During celebration of the Eucharist, there will be no offertory procession or collection.
- You are asked not to hold hands or shake hands during any portion of the celebration of the Eucharist. As a sign of peace, a nod or bow to others is appropriate.
- Sunday offerings can be placed in designated basket located at the back of the church as you exit church and in the main hall prior to exiting building.
- The Holy Eucharist will be offered to parishioners as you exit the church. Father Marek will offer a special blessing and proceed to the back of the church. The Ushers will then direct the flow of parishioners to receive communion and exit church. It is important that everyone await the direction of the Ushers to ensure physical distancing is maintained. For those in attendance in the main hall, a Eucharistic Minister will be assigned to distribute communion and the Ushers will direct the flow of traffic to receive communion and exit building.
- While receiving communion, you are asked to remove mask if wearing one and receive the host in the hand by placing one on top of the other, allowing the Eucharistic Minister to safely place the Body of Christ in one's hand without contact. In the event you wish to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, you are asked to remain at the end of the line to receive communion.
- Should you not wish to receive communion, once you are next in line for communion, simply step to the side and exit church or main hall door.
- Upon exiting the church, you are asked not to socialize or remain in the parking lot.
- If you would like to volunteer as an Usher or to assist with the sanitizing requirements between masses, please contact the Parish Office.

If at any time, you suddenly feel ill, start coughing or sneezing, please leave the church for the health and safety of others gathered.

If, within 14 days of attending Mass, you learn that you or someone in your family who attended Mass with you has tested positive for COVID-19, you are asked to a) contact the Ontario Public Health Authority; and b) contact the parish office. Your identity will not be revealed to anyone other than the Public Health Authority, and only to ensure that any spread is contained.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we begin the transition of re-opening and pray for the health and safety of our parishioners and our community.