

Holy Rosary Parish
Clinton, MO (660-885-4523)

St. Bartholomew Parish

504 East Benton Street
Windsor, MO

(Address all correspondence to 610 South 4th Street, Clinton, MO 64735)

St. Catherine Parish

Highway WW
Osceola, MO

Dear Parish Family,

For several months now, public mass and the obligation to attend mass has been suspended by our bishop because of Covid 19. In fact, all Catholics are dispensed of their obligation to attend Sunday Mass until further notice. Presently, some parishes are opening to celebrate the Eucharist once again. As your pastor, I have decided to open up our three parishes beginning June 6 / 7. Daily mass at Holy Rosary will begin on June 9. Personally, this decision has been difficult for me because I know friends who contracted the virus and some I know who have died from it. My personal experience has made this decision to open up difficult. I would never want to place our parishioners at risk of contracting this virus. With this in mind, those who are at risk because of an underlying health issue or who are 60 or older are strongly encouraged to avoid the risk of attending the public celebration of Mass. However, the choice is yours and you are always welcome. I will continue to have the mass taped so that you can watch it at home.

For those who will attend, our liturgical life will look a little different when we come back to Mass. The following information is to inform you how you may return to public worship safely and responsibly. These procedures and practices are in keeping with the directives and guidelines from the Diocese of Kansas City - St. Joseph. Though things will be different, they are not permanent; the restrictions will gradually be eased as the continuing health situation is monitored.

Who may attend...

- Parishioners who are symptomatic or who have been exposed to another with the virus should not come to church, in accordance with national, state, and local health directives.
- Attendees should take their temperature at home before determining whether they should attend Mass.
- Anyone over 60 years-old and those with underlying health issues are encouraged to participate in Mass by way of our website: trumanlakecatholic.com

What happens when I arrive at Church?

- Social distancing recommendations will be followed in regards to spacing of individuals in church.
- The pews that will be use will be designated by a sign. We are asking that one family sit per pew. Individuals and couples can sit at opposite ends of a pew with plenty of distance.
- The faithful are obliged to wear a mask upon entering the church and during the celebration of Mass, except when remaining in the pew and for the brief moment of receiving Holy Communion..
- Volunteers will wipe down the tops of pews, door handles, and other high traffic fixtures and furnishings after each Mass

- Following Mass, please exit the church practicing appropriate social distancing. Please do not remain in church to socialize as people may wish to pray in the peacefulness of a quiet church after having been apart for so long.
- Bulletins or other materials normally handed out will be available on tables at each church door. Ushers will not pass materials from one person to another.
- Father, and the Deacon, will greet parishioners after Mass, but will maintain distancing for the health and well-being of all.

How will the Mass, itself, be different?

Mindful that these modifications are temporary and necessary to return to public worship, we must all be patient with what will be different when we return. During this first phase of re-opening, liturgies will be simplified, yet retain their reverence and dignity.

- Congregational singing is discouraged at all parishes. We will wait for the return of our music ministry until phase two of our reopening, keeping with recommendations from the diocese. We know this will be a strange adjustment, but it is only temporary.
- The procession of gifts will be omitted.
- Stationary baskets for making an offertory gift will be available at each door...please consider signing up for online giving through the parish website.
- The sign of peace will be offered without physical contact. A simple gesture, such as the nod of the head will do.
- Holy Communion will be distributed by Father, and the Deacon. If needed, an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion will be asked before Mass begins to assist.
- Holy Communion will only be distributed under one Species, meaning there will be no reception of the Precious Blood from common chalices.
- During this time, Holy Communion will be distributed in the hand in keeping with the advice of state health officials.
- To receive Holy Communion, we invite you to remain in place. The Father, Deacon, and or Eucharistic Minister will come to you in your pew.
- The Faithful are still encouraged to make a Spiritual Act of Communion if not attending Mass or uncomfortable receiving Holy Communion. The Spiritual Act of Communion will be lead at each Mass following Communion.

Liturgical Ministers & Volunteers

- Father, and the Deacon, will distribute Holy Communion. Should an Extraordinary Minister be needed, they will be asked to assist before Mass. Please disregard the minister schedule for the time being.
- Lectors should follow their schedule as best as possible.
Ushers and volunteers are to wear masks and gloves (when gloves are not available, frequent hand washing will be necessary) throughout the celebration of Mass.
- Servers will not be used during this time.

Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings

- Baptisms will still be celebrated as scheduled by the pastor.
- Funerals will still be celebrated but will follow the procedures for other Masses.
- Weddings will still be celebrated but attendance may be limited to a smaller congregation. Couples with weddings scheduled should consult with the parish office.

I am very grateful for the many parishioners who have continued to support our mission through their financial support during this difficult time. I am thankful and edified by the participation of so many people, near and far, in our taped Masses. It will be a wonderful moment when we are able to worship together again.

Our three parishes have always banded together to overcome challenges in the past and we have done so once again to keep our community healthy. With your continued cooperation and support, we will be able to return to public worship safely and responsibly. Let's continue to pray for one another and be thankful for the many gifts we have been given!