

NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY CATHEDRAL RETURNING TO WORSHIP TOGETHER

Starting on May 23rd, 2020, the Cathedral will be following the “Policies and Procedures For Returning To Worship Together” sent to us by Bishop Kihneman.

ENTERING THE CATHEDRAL:

Only 2 doors for the Cathedral will be opened: the Front Main Door and the Handicapped Door on the east side of the cathedral

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY MASS:

- *We continue to be dispensed from the obligation to participate in Holy Mass
- *Live streaming Mass is available

THOSE RETURNING TO MASS:

- *Must be illness free
- *Must sanitize hands when coming into the cathedral
- *Must allow 6 feet of physical distance between individuals or family groups who live in the same household (no extended families)

THE FAITHFUL WHO PARTICIPATE IN MASS MAY RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION IF THEY ARE FREE TO DO SO AND GUIDELINES ARE FOLLOWED AS DESCRIBED BELOW:

- Personal protective masks are to be worn by ushers, those serving at the Altar
- Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and are highly recommended for all attending Mass. They are to be worn by all those distributing Holy Communion, including clergy. MASKS will be provided.
- The offertory should be “touchless” except for the ushers. Ushers should wear masks and make use of hand sanitizer before and after the collection and the collection baskets should be sanitized before and after each Mass.
- Exchanging the Sign of Peace by means of physical contact remains suspended. The sign of peace may be, e.g., verbal (without touch), with a bow or wave to those nearby.
- Prior to distribution of Holy Communion, Clergy and other Ministers are to make use of hand sanitizer.
- The Body of Christ may be offered to the faithful. Reception of the Precious Blood from a common chalice is suspended for the time being.
- While communicants retain the right to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, Pastors should encourage the faithful to receive on the hand.

- A Minister of Holy Communion is to use hand sanitizer after each individual who receives on the tongue, who may be asked, where advisable, to approach Holy Communion at the end of the line.
- Ministers of Holy Communion are to distribute the consecrated Hosts with special care, being cautious not to touch the communicant. If there is accidental touching, the Minister is to pause to use hand sanitizer.

NOTE: We can only accommodate 81 spaces in the Cathedral; the overflow will be in the Sacred Heart Center. Holy Communion will be provided for them.

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be no bulletins or Missalettes. Parish information will be sent to parishioners electronically, by social media or mail.

SPECIAL PRECAUTION BETWEEN MASSES

After each Mass, the Cathedral will be sanitized. All surfaces and doors will be whipped down with disinfectant. All ministers participating in a given Mass (lectors, eucharistic Ministers, Cantors, Ushers and clergy are asked to assist in this task).

Phase 1 is not just for inside the church and during Mass. Only with a successful implementation of Phase 1 can localities proceed to Phase 2 and Phase 3. PLEASE keep appropriate physical distance as you leave church and return to your cars. There should be no groups gathering before or after Mass.