ST. ANNE PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We, the people of St. Anne Parish, Southborough, in the Diocese of Worcester are called through Baptism to become one faith family. We commit ourselves to embody the presence of Christ in Word and Sacrament; by using our ministries to welcome all who are seeking Jesus and to share in the life and work of our Catholic faith. In the spirit and truth of the Holy Trinity, we will use our time, talents and treasure to answer God's command to love one another as He has loved us, in holy worship, prayer, Catechetical formation for all, evangelization and service to others.

SAINT ANNE PARISH

20 Boston Road Southborough, MA 01772

We welcome all visitors to St. Anne Parish. If you would like to join our faith community, please call the Parish Office to register: 508-485-0141

Parish Contact Information Office Hours:

Monday ~ Thursday 9:30 am to 3:00 pm Friday ~ 9:30 am to noon Telephone 508-485-0141 Fax 508-460-0181

E-mail:

stanne403@stannesouthborough.org Web: www.stannesouthborough.org

Pastor

Fr. Albert Irudayasamy fralbert@stannesouthborough.org

Parish Council
George Stagno ~ Chair

Finance Committee
Rich Flathers ~ Chair

Religious Education
Director of Religious Education:
Daniel Doyle
dan@stannesouthborough.org
508-485-0141 ext 225
Monday to Thursday 10:00 to 6:00

Parish Office Manager
Melissa Shields
stanne403@stannesouthborough.org
Linda Bradstreet (on leave)

and Sundays

Bookkeeper
Bridgitte Morgan
bridgitte@stannesouthborough.org

Music Ministry
Organist & Choir Director:
Paul Crivello 508-366-0821
pcrivello04@gmail.com

Maintenance
Matt Bernier
mbern@stannesouthborough.org

Amy Buttiglieri ~ Webmaster webmaster@stannesouthborough.org



FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT November 29, 2020

"Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time will come."

(Mark 13:33)

We all take things for granted.

In particular, we take time for granted.

We make our lives too busy.
We plan our time, our days,
weeks, months, even years in
advance.

Remember, our time on earth is a gift.

None of us knows how long we will be here.

Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day.

Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.

Would you like to receive a copy of the bulletin via email every week?
Please send an email to: stanne403@stannesouthborough.org with "St. Anne Bulletin List" in the subject line.

Lord's Day Mass Schedule:

Saturday ~ 5:00 pm Sunday ~ 8:30 am, 10:30 am, and 5:30 p.m.

Children's Liturgy of the Word will resume in the spring.

Daily Mass Schedule:

Week Day Mass Monday-Thursday: 9:00 am First Fridays: 9:00 am

Healing Mass:

First Wednesday of every month suspended until further notice.

Please see Reopening Guidelines in bulletin for protocols for Sacraments.

Confessions:

Saturday ~ 4:15 pm, or anytime on request

Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
Wednesdays: 9:30 am to 6:00 pm

Sacrament of Baptism

Call the Parish Office to schedule a Baptism. For the time being, baptisms are will be celebrated outside of Masses, rather than during a scheduled Mass.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements with a priest required at least one year prior to the wedding date.
Visitation of the Sick Fr. Albert is

pleased to bring Holy Communion to parishioners who are unable to join us for weekly worship. Call the Parish Office to arrange a time.

PARISH MASS INFORMATION AND MINISTRIES

St. Anne Parish Livestreamed Daily and Weekend Masses

Livestreamed St. Anne Masses:

Continued livestream offerings of 5:00 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday and 9:00 a.m. daily Masses through our parish website!

- Go to parish webpage: www.stannesouthborough.org.
- Scroll down to "ECatholic Live: St. Anne Southborough". *See logo on right*. Or click on Quick Link in box on the right of web homepage.
- Click on the arrow in the middle of the logo at 5:00 p.m. for Saturday evening Mass, 10:30 a.m. for Sunday Mass, and 9:00 a.m. for daily Masses Monday through Thursday.





An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,

I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Liturgical Minister Schedule

November 28 & 29 ~ First Sunday of Advent, Year B					
5:00 pm	Lector	Nick Paganella			
	Communion Ministers	Debbie Simon			
8:30 am	Lector	Elaine Yetman			
	Communion Ministers	Doris Campero			
10:30 am	Lector	Jim Garden			
	Communion Ministers	Joe Cruciani			
5:30 pm	Lector	NEED			

December 5 & 6 ~ Second Sunday of Advent, Year B

December	r 5 & 0 ~ Second Sunda	iy of Auvent, Year
5:00 pm	Lector	Roger Jolicoeur
	Communion Ministers	Debbie Simon
8:30 am	Lector	Nancy Denardo
	Communion Ministers	Fran Schiebe
10:30 am	Lector	Doug Parent
	Communion Ministers	Joe Cruciani
5:30 pm	Lector	Melissa Shields

Dear Parishioners.

We are entering into the season of Advent. The season of Advent is a time to become aware of God's deep faithfulness and preparing our hearts to receive Him more deeply into our lives. Advent is a time to become more aware of the presence of the Lord in our lives. Advent is a time to wake up from the slumber of sin to a life of grace and blessing. Advent is a time to shake off the dust of sluggishness and become more zealous and fervent. During the next four weeks of this season, we are invited to examine ourselves in asking: Am I casually wasting away my life without giving enough attention to my spiritual life? Am I spending my time enjoying in vain, without paying attention to the higher things of life? Am I dozing off in lethargy and laziness and failing to carry out my Christian responsibilities? The season of Advent is a wonderful time to renew our commitment and consecration to the Lord. The Lords wishes to come into our hearts. God will fulfill His promise of coming into us, when we do our part of being watchful and prepared. As St. Thomas Aguinas says: "Without God, I can't. Without me, He won't." Let us become more watchful and let us become more prayerful. With prayers,

Fr. Albert

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE with MASS INTENTIONS (November 28 to December 6)

Mass intention can be scheduled for those who have died, and on the occasion of a birthday, wedding anniversary, for healing, for the grace to face the challenges in life, for success in a new job, for those serving in the church and country in different levels, for world peace, in thanksgiving for the blessings received, etc.

To request a Mass Intention, stop in the Parish Office or call 508-485-0141.

To request a Mass Intention, stop in the Parish Office or call 508-485-0141.				
SATURDAY 28	5:00 pm	For St. Anne parishioners		
SUNDAY 29	8:30 am	For Florence Pessini (29 th Anniversary) by the Paganella family		
	10:30 am	For healing for all who are sick		
	5:30 pm	For the student and teachers of St. Anne Parish		
MONDAY 30	9:00 am	For Roger O'Brien (Healing) by Millie and Jim Garden		
TUESDAY 1	9:00 am	For Margaret Ann Hostage		
WEDNESDAY 2	9:00 am	In honor of St. Joseph by Millie and Jim Garden		
THURSDAY 3	9:00 am	For Victoria Urbina Titto (1 st Anniversary) by Doris Campero and family		
FRIDAY 4	9:00 am	For Willie Wolters (Month's Mind) by the Morgan family		
SATURDAY 5	5:00 pm	For the deceased members of our parish family		
SUNDAY 6	8:30 am	For the people who have died of COVID-19		
	10:30 am	For the healing of all especially those mentioned in the prayer list		

5:30 pm For the students and teachers of St. Anne Parish

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



From the Desk of the Director of Religious Education



Dan Doyle

St. Anne Religious Education December classes

If you have not registered, please go to stannesouthborough.org or pick up a paper copy of registration forms available at the entrance to the church and in the Parish Offices.

Grades 1-2 (Non-sacramental): Starting in December, monthly digital RE home packets will be emailed to Grades 1-2 RE families. Parents are asked to continue reviewing all sent materials with their child.

Grade 2+ (2020-21 FC preparation) and Grades 3-5: December 6 and 13 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Grades 6-8: December 6 and 13 from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. (includes the 5:30 p.m. Mass)

Grades 9 & 10 (2-year Confirmation preparation): December 6 and 13 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. (includes 5:30 p.m. Mass)

2020-21 Catechists:

- ♦ Grades 1-2 (Non-Sacramental): Pat Battles & Jane Wood
- Grade 2+: Pat Draper & Joanne Flathers
- Grades 3&4: Laura Schroeder & Christy Williams
- ♦ Grade 5: Julia Denardo Roney
- Grades 6-8: Beth McGonagle & Rich Flathers
- ♦ Grades 9&10 (Confirmation): Dan Doyle, Steven Jacek, & Jenna Jacek

We have implemented all the necessary safety protocols:

- Children will enter the Parish Hall through the main glass doors and exit through the white door nearest the stage end of the Hall;
- Children must wear a mask from entrance to exit;
- All chairs are set 6 ft. apart;
- All classrooms will have hand sanitizer and wipes;
- Doors and windows will remain open for proper circulation of air.

NEW! Follow St. Anne Parish on Instagram and Snapchat! We will be using these apps to post photos, videos, and other **St. Anne Youth Ministry** content.



Instagram: @stanne.ym Snapchat: @stanneym



Advent Videos for Religious Ed. Families

We know at this time of the year preparing for Christmas can be very hectic, even though the season of Advent should be a time of prayerful preparation for Jesus' birth.

To help with that, starting on the First Sunday of Advent and continuing every week until Christmas, we will be releasing weekly videos to share with your families to help remember the true meaning of the Advent season.



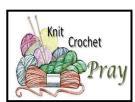
Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting



Prayer shawl members are once again meeting every Monday from 10:00 to noon in the Parish Hall knitting and crocheting for anyone who is ill or suffering who might welcome a blessed and comforting prayer shawl

Interested in joining this ministry? Stop in the Parish Hall any Monday or call the Parish Office for more information.

Do you or someone you know need a prayer shawl? Please call the Parish Office to arrange a shawl pickup or delivery. Check out the numbered photos of available shawls on the parish website under "Prayer Shawl".



Baby Crib Quilts

Parishioner Sandy Callinan has sewn beautiful baby quilts blessed by Father Albert which are available in the Parish Office for sick infants and children in need of healing prayers.



Eulling

Religious Calendars 2021

2021 Religious Calendars are available for all parishioners. The calendars are in the foyers of the church. Thank you to Morris Funeral Home

for their kindness in donating these nice calendars.

Attention Lectors

The 2020-2021 Lector books are in and are available for lectors to pick up. The books are located at the side entrance of the church (Ramp Entrance) in the book case.



Giving Tree

Giving Tree Ministry

Earlier this week there were still plenty of Giving Tree gift request tags available for pick-up. If remote participation is preferred, please mail/drop off gift cards in any

denomination to the Parish Office whereby it will be assigned to one of the gift request tags.

Each tag represents a person from the Southborough Food Pantry, Urban Missionaries of Worcester, and Southborough Youth and Family Services seeking assistance this giving season.

Top gift card requests: Market Basket, Price Chopper, Stop & Shop, Target, Walgreen's, Wal-Mart, Old Navy, Marshall's, TJ Maxx. Falconi Gas, local restaurants, etc.

Mail-in gifts and gifts with attached tags are due back to the church **THIS SUNDAY**, **November 29**.

The Saint Anne Christmas Giving Tree Ministry

~ Orla Wages, St. Anne GTM Coordinator

The Christmas Giving Tree is "up" this weekend with tags for parishioners to take. Again, we look forward to supporting the following three charities:

A. Southborough United Parishes

a. They are requesting gift cards only.

B. Southborough Youth and Family Services

a. They are requesting gift cards only.

C. Urban Missionaries of Our Lady of Hope Center in Worcester

- a. They are requesting a mixture of toys and gift cards.
- b. They also ask that there be no gift wrap, no gift bags, no ribbons, no batteries, and no candy.

The Giving Tree Ministry will be a bit different this year, providing two ways to participate.

In-person Tag Selection

For those parishioners attending Mass in-person wishing to support the Giving Tree Ministry, we offer these suggestions:

- 1. Select a gift request tag that will be displayed on foam boards standing in each of the church windows instead of hanging off a tree. (The tags can be viewed from the pews and taken off the board without having to sort through them or crowding around a tree.)
- 2. Return the gift card/gift with the original tag attached. This tag identifies who will receive the gift and is important to assisting in the distribution.
- 3. Gift cards should be placed in an unsealed envelope with the original tag attached and with the dollar value of each card enclosed (if more than one) penciled on the front of the envelope.

Remote Tag Selection

For those parishioners who feel safer viewing Mass from home and do not enter the church building, but who wish to support the Giving Tree Ministry, we offer these suggestions:

- 1. Purchase a gift card in any denomination;
- 2. Place the gift card in an envelope indicating in pencil the amount on the outside of the envelope;
- 3. Drop off/Mail in the envelope to the church or Parish Office at 20 Boston Road, Southborough, MA 01772
- 4. The gift card will be assigned to a displayed tag which will be attached to the envelope by GT Ministry helpers and will be distributed to the appropriate agency.

Distribution Helpful Hints and Reminders:

- Most popular gift card requests: Target, Walmart, Stop and Shop, Market Basket, Trader Joe's, Old Navy, CVS, Walgreens, Amazon, Visa, Falconi Gas, Price Chopper, Marshalls, Michael's, Barnes and Noble, local restaurants, Game Stop, etc.
- If you take a tag, PLEASE make certain that you return a gift for the request. Each tag represents a gift request for a real person.
- <u>Please do not wrap gift cards.</u> The agencies that distribute the gifts need to know the dollar value of each certificate in order to make an equitable distribution among the families. Also, please be sure the gift card is activated by the store at the time of purchase.
- Gift receipts are advisable with clothing items in case an exchange is necessary.
- A gift card may be substituted for any gift if you are having difficulty filling a specific request.

We look forward to the St. Anne Parish annual works of charity and hope that once again we will bring Christmas joy and happiness to the many families that will benefit from our help. Thank you for making this Christmas special for others.

Important 2020 Giving Tree Ministry Dates:

- · Tags displayed Saturday, November 7th through Saturday, November 14th;
- · Parishioners return gifts to church by Sunday, November 29th;
- Charities will pick up gifts on Monday, November 30th.





MINISTRIES AND STEWARDSHIP



United Parishes of Southborough Food Pantry

A HUGE thank you to everyone who continues to support the Southborough Food Pantry. You truly put into action Christ's message to "feed the hungry" and to "give comfort to my people". Thank you so very much on behalf of the Southborough Food Pantry.

Donations may be left in the foyer of St, Anne Parish Hall. As most food items are date sensitive, <u>please be sure that your</u> donation is not out of date.

Given the extraordinary support that the Pantry has received during this time of pandemic, this space usually dedicated to needed food items is being used to promote participation in St Anne Parish's Giving Tree Ministry that supports pantry clients during this time of year.

If you know of anyone who could benefit from the Food Pantry, please encourage them to contact the Food Pantry. Safety precautions are outlined in letter on separate page. Pantry hours (located at Pilgrim Church) for CLIENTS are Thursdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and Fridays from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

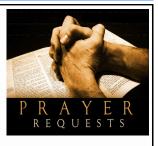


PLEASE NOTE: Donations also can be left in bins outside the pantry door at Pilgrim Church anytime other than client hours listed above.

Pat Draper, St. Anne Parish Coordinator

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Sr. Yvette, Dianne Higgins, Millie Garden, Seminarian Alex Quach, Pat Moran, Fr. Thirburse F. Millot, Katie Kulik, Elaine Arrison, Jackie Di Buono, Rachel Attaway, Matthew, Susan Cioppa, Anne Comcowich, Lillian Franco, Mary Hunt, Hans, Elisabel Borreani, Peg Nicosia, Dr.



Malgorzata McMasters (*Covid-19 Healing*), Tom Livingstone, Bob Seariac (*Covid-19 Healing*), Sheila & Charlie Flathers, Pat Fitzgerald, Anne Meek, Paul LeDuc, Marie Martin, Sheila, Annie Lonzoria (*Healing*), Bryan Boney (*Healing*), Marilou Alvarado-Custodio, Helen Kelly, Janet Mattioli (*Healing*), Jane & Miles Gray, Jim Hegarty (*Healing*), Ellie Creamer (*Healing*), Mikey Lang (*Healing*), Zara Daniel (*Healing*), Julie Flanders (*Healing*)

Want to add your name or the name(s) of others to the Prayers for the Sick listing? Please email the names to the Parish Office at stanne403@stannesouthborough.org.

(Names appearing on the list for more than a year are unposted unless a continued need is known. To have a name restored to or removed from the list, please email the Parish Office.

Preventing Child Abuse is Everyone's Responsibility

It is every adult's moral responsibility to protect possible victims (any age) by reporting suspected abuse or neglect to the responsible authorities. For particular help you may call: The Office for Healing and Prevention, Diocese of Worcester, at 508-929-4363. The Diocese of Worcester requires Safe Environment training for all staff and volunteers.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP REPORTS FOR

Through November 22, 2020

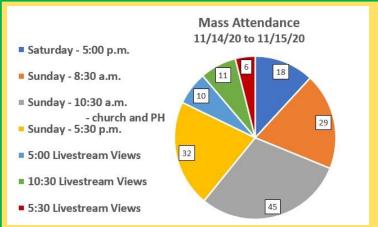
Regular Weekly Offering:	\$1	,617.00
Capital Improvements:		
Fuel:	\$	100.00
All Souls Day:	.\$	50.00
Haiti Twinning Parish:	.\$	100.00
Human Development:	\$	185.00

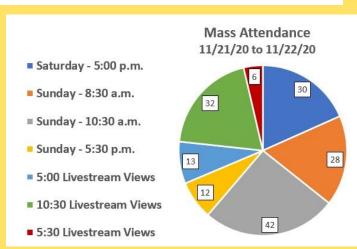
Online Giving: St. Anne Parish partners with WeShare for online giving. WeShare allows both onetime gifts, as well as regular, scheduled donations. Please visit our Parish website www.stannesouthborough.org for the link to WeShare.com or call 1-800-950-9952 and use option 1 to answer any questions.

St. Anne's Website: With our website we have an additional resource for online giving and online CE registration. St. Anne Parish partners with eCatholic and BluePay for easy on-line giving. Our one-step on-line form allows both one-time gifts, as well as regular, scheduled donations. Please visit our Parish website www.stannesouthborough.org and select the Quick Link to the BluePay On-Line Giving page.

Thank you for your continued, generous support!







PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS - ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS



Advent Season will begin next Sunday, November 29th. Please make use of this Advent season to prepare yourselves for the coming of our Lord.

You will be receiving short videos and messages from our Parish Office Flocknotes during the next four weekends (Saturdays and Sundays). These messages, songs, videos will help us to prepare ourselves during this season and understand the meaning of Christmas.

Sharing Advent Traditions



We are about to step into the season of Advent. We wish you all a meaningful preparation. As we did two years ago, we are once again inviting parishioners to share the Christmas preparation that you do in your families. It is a wonderful opportunity to introduce yourselves to the St. Anne community and deepen your relationship with everyone. We understand that many parishioners are unable to attend Masses in-person due to varied reasons, but please consider writing a short note for our bulletin which we will publish for our parish community to read. We are sure the notes will be inspiring. Also, please send pictures of your family and manger.



NEW Confession Times

Given the need to disinfect the church after each Mass, confessions will no longer be heard between Sunday Masses. Confessions now will be heard every Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you are unable to come on Wednesdays, please call the office to make an appointment.

Common Confession Service

There will be a Common Confession for all parishioners on Wednesday, December 16 at 7:00 p.m. There will be two priests to listen to confessions. All are welcome!

Regular Mass on ALL Fridays during Advent season

We will celebrate Mass on all Fridays at 9:00 a.m. during Advent Season.



Signup for Christmas Masses

Please see below the timing of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses. For each Mass, we will be able to accommodate 50 parishioners in the church and 30 in the Parish Hall.

For those parishioners planning to attend in-person Christmas Eve and/or Christmas Day Masses, please note that registration will be required. St. Anne Parish will be setting up an online sign up for registration to secure an accurate head count.

The sign up will be sent via Flocknotes on *Tuesday, December 1 at 12 o'clock noon* to all parishioners who regularly receive our parish weekly bulletin. The subject line of the email will be "Our Mass Times for Christmas...Hope To See You There!". The sign up link also will be available on our parish website: www.stannesouthborough.org and will be live starting Tuesday, December 1 after 12 o'clock noon. The registration will be on a first come, first-served basis. If you are unable to register on-line, please call the Parish Office to register.

To register, please click on the link for the Mass that you plan to attend. Each signup slot will allow for a maximum of 5 persons. If your family group exceeds 5 persons, please signup for a second slot for the additional family members. Those who have difficulties signing up, please call the Parish Office at 508-485-0141.

Christmas Mass Times

- Christmas Eve Masses: Thursday, December 24 at 4:00 p.m. & 8:00* p.m. *Due to the state curfew, we are unable to have an 11:00 p.m. Mass this year
- Christmas Day Masses: Friday, December 25 at 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Blessing of Baby Jesus Statue

For those parishioners coming to the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses, you may bring "Child Jesus" statue for a blessing during the Masses.



DIOCESAN INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent Reflection For Adults

"A Time Will Come for Singing" is a four-session program for adults during Advent. Each weekly session will be online and will include a brief lesson and prayer, a short Advent-related video,



and closing comments and prayer. Twenty minutes tops - from your own laptop, tablet, or mobile phone! Login whenever you want to during each of the four weeks. Take a step back from the hectic pace of the holidays to reflect on the true reason for the season. FREE, but you must register ahead of time so you can receive a link each week. Contact Romeo Marquis, Director of Faith Formation, Blessed Sacrament Church, Worcester.

Email <u>Rmarquis48@outlook.com</u> for details and to register.

Facing Fear with Jesus in a COVID-19 World

Our country faces a host of fears: sickness and death from a worldwide pandemic, job, and financial loss, loneliness, and radical changes in our society. But the storm that surrounds us is nothing that we cannot handle with Jesus' help. He is not asleep in our boat. Explore eight concrete tips from the Bible, the Saints, and our Catholic Faith. The session includes prayer, reflection, small group sharing, and

presentations. Speakers: John and Therese Boucher, teachers and authors of hundreds of articles and many books.



Tuesday, December 8, 7:00-9:00 pm

FREE REGISTRATION (limited spaces available)! Send an email with your name, email, and phone number to Esperanza Oliveras, cje21@verizon.net, by Monday, December 7, 2000, to:receive the Zoom.com video session link.

(Hosted by the Parish Renewal and Evangelization Committee, Diocese of Worcester.)

Responding to Recent Natural Disasters

In solidarity with our brothers in sisters who are struggling to recover from natural disasters in Louisiana and California, Bishop McManus along with his brother Bishops are asking Catholics around the country to donate to the Bishops' Emergency Disaster Fund which funds relief efforts led by Catholic Charities USA and Catholic Relief Services.

If you would like to make a donation to help those impacted by recent disasters including Hurricane Laura and the California wildfires, please

visit <u>worcesterdiocese.org</u> for more information on where to send a check or to make an online contribution.

Please keep all the families who have lost everything as a result of these disasters in your prayers.







Roman Catholic Bishops of Massachusetts Statement Regarding House Budget Amendment Expanding Abortion Access

The Catholic Church teaches that life itself starts at conception and ends with natural death.

The Massachusetts state legislature is currently debating the annual budget to fund state government for the balance of the fiscal year. As part of that process many amendments are filed for consideration. House amendment number 759 will be considered by the full House in the coming days. This amendment would expand abortion access in the Commonwealth well beyond what is enshrined in state law.

While we acknowledge the amendment addresses some concerns that were raised about the deeplytroubling provisions of the ROE legislation, the fact remains that abortion would remain an option under certain circumstances for the full term of the pregnancy. That fact alone is in direct conflict with Catholic teaching and must be opposed.

In addition, current law requires a young woman under the age of 18 years old to gain the consent of a parent, guardian or the court to have an abortion. The amendment under consideration would decrease the age of consent to 16 years old. In its simplest terms, a 16 or 17 year old girl would be deprived of the guidance and support of an adult at the time of making this life changing decision.

Finally, although life-supporting equipment would be required to be in the room for abortions performed after 24 weeks, the specific language in the amendment is nuanced enough that the physician would not be required to use the equipment.

Specifically, it would "enable" the physician performing the abortion to take appropriate steps, in keeping with good medical practice....to preserve the life and health of a live birth and the patient.

For these reasons we urge the full House of Representatives not to pass amendment number 759.

His Eminence Seán P. O'Malley, OFM, Cap.
Archbishop of Boston



Most Reverend Robert J. McManus Bishop of Worcester

Most Reverent Edgar M. da Cunha, SDV Bishop of Fall River





Large Nativity Sets Needed for Notre Dame Long Term Care Facility

Due to the COVID-19 precautions preventing large gatherings in single spaces, Notre Dame Long Term Care in Worcester is looking for two additional nativity sets (on approximately

a 1' scale) to put out for their residents to enjoy in different wings of their facility. If you have a nativity set that you would like to donate, please contact the Director of Pastoral Care Erin McCarthy, (508) 852-3011.



Vocations E-newsletter

The Office of Vocations has launched a monthly e-newsletter, "The Call." Come follow the great things God is doing in the lives of our

seminarians. To view past issues or to sign up, go to https://www.worcestervocations.com/sign-up-for-our-newsletter.



A Letter from Bishop McManus

10 November 2020

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Since the first days of the present pandemic, the Priests, Deacons and faithful of the Diocese of Worcester have struggled in an exemplary way to minister to the sick and protect the vulnerable, while remaining safe and close to the Lord. In circumstances we could never have imagined, we have sought to celebrate the Sacred Liturgy with integrity and fidelity.

As we enter, yet again, into an intense struggle with the COVID-19 virus I call upon you to continue these noble efforts. In these days of increased spread of the virus, I ask every priest to assure that the guidelines provided by the Office for Divine Worship be faithfully observed in each of our parishes, including the revised guidelines for singing at the Liturgy contained in this edition of *Orantes*.

As we prepare for the celebration of the Nativity of the Lord, the safe scheduling of Christmas Masses is on the mind of each one of our priests. In the interest of providing the opportunity for as many of our people as possible to participate in a Christmas Mass, I am granting permission for Mass to be celebrated as early as 3:00pm on Christmas Eve, provided that at least two Masses are also celebrated on Christmas morning. This permission is granted after consultation with my fellow Bishops and applies only to Christmas Eve of this year.

Finally, on March 16, 2020 I announced my decision to suspend the obligation to take part in the Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation due to the specific danger presented by this virus to older people and those with certain health conditions. With this letter I continue that suspension until the First Sunday of Lent, February 21, 2021, at which time I will reconsider the question as circumstances may require it.

In last month's issue of *Orantes* you read the carefully considered letter of the Prefect of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, Cardinal Sarah. As His Eminence so beautifully reminded us, "we cannot be without the banquet of the Eucharist, the table of the Lord to which we are invited as sons and daughters, brothers and sisters to receive the Risen Christ himself, present in body, blood, soul and divinity in that Bread of heaven which sustains us in the joys and labors of this earthly pilgrimage."

It is my prayer that through our continuing and fruitful celebration of the Holy Eucharist, the source and summit of our lives, the Lord will give us the graces we need to be his faithful and obedient servants in these challenging days.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McManus Bishop of Worcester

READINGS FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B

READING I Isaiah 63:16B-17, 19B; 64:2-7

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

You, LORD, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever. Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways,

and harden our hearts so that we fear you not? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage.

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,

with the mountains quaking before you, while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for,

such as they had not heard of from of old. No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you

doing such deeds for those who wait for him. Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways! Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful; all of us have become like unclean people, all our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves, and our guilt carries us away like the wind. There is none who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to cling to you; for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us up to our guilt. Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands.

The Word of the Lord.



Psalm 85:8

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**Show us Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hearken, from your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth. Rouse your power, and come to save us.

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

Once again, O LORD of hosts, look down from heaven, and see; take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted the son of man whom you yourself made strong.

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

May your help be with the man of your right hand, with the son of man whom you yourself made strong. Then we will no more withdraw from you; give us new life, and we will call upon your name.

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

READING II 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

A Letter from St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus.

that in him you were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge, as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

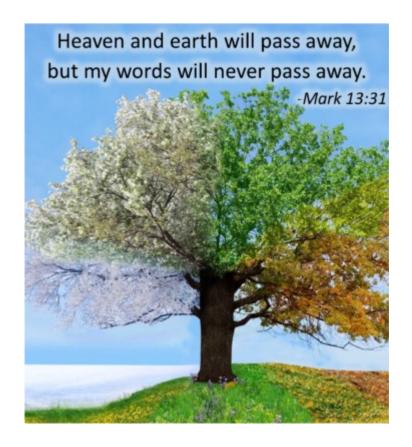
He will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful,

and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR B



GOSPEL Mark 13:33-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Be watchful! Be alert!

You do not know when the time will come.

It is like a man traveling abroad.

He leaves home and places his servants in charge,

each with his own work,

and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.

Watch, therefore;

you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming,

whether in the evening, or at midnight,

or at cockcrow, or in the morning.

May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.

What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

The Gospel of the Lord.



Don't Miss Your Chance

First Sunday of Advent, Year B November 29, 2020 Ann Naffziger

Reading I: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 Responsorial Psalm: Psalm Reading II: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

As Advent begins, we hear Jesus warn his listeners - and us - to be alert and watchful. What are we to be watching and waiting for? In the Gospels, Jesus was referring to his Second Coming and the end of the world as we know it. In fact, the apostles and his early friends and followers were so certain that Jesus was returning soon that they believed it would happen in their lifetimes.

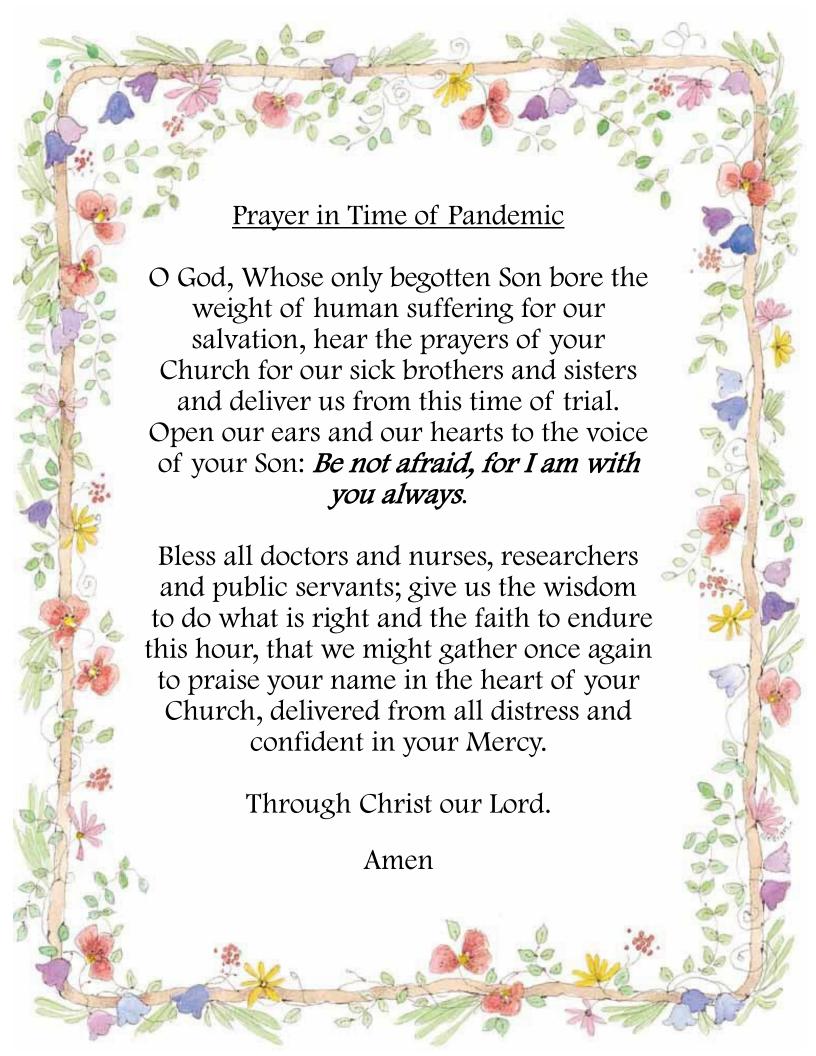
Now, 2,000 years later, we sometimes take for granted that the world probably isn't about to end anytime soon, despite the COVID pandemic, natural disasters, and racial tensions of 2020. Yet maybe Jesus is still calling us to be alert to all of the opportunities we have to love and be loved right now, today, because we don't know how much time we have left on this earth.

It is common to hear victims of natural disasters or tragic violence say, "I never imagined this would happen to us. I never imagined this would happen here." Maybe part of what they are saying is that they were sleepwalking through life, taking their lives and the lives of their loved ones for granted.

If we knew we only had a short time left to live, how would we want to spend our remaining time? What if we knew our child or spouse or parent would be taken from us soon? How might our priorities change? Even if we aren't motivated to stay watchful for the end of this world, Jesus is still calling us to be alert so that we don't miss the opportunities to love and serve the people of this world while we have the chance. What is passing us by because we are too busy and distracted to notice?

Questions of the Week

- 1. Every few years a small Christian group predicts that the end of the world is in sight. We might not pay much attention, but how would you live life differently if you only had a few weeks or days to live? What would you change? What concrete actions would you take?
- **2.** In what particular area(s) of your life do you take things for granted? How could you change?



Please Note: This SYFS gift card drive is running concurrently with the St. Anne Giving Tree Ministry that supports SYFS, as well as two other local agencies.

HOLIDAY GIVING PROGRAM GIFT CARD DRIVE

Your donations are imperative for this program's success!

SEEKING DONATIONS TO TARGET, WALMART, AMAZON, TRADER JOES, STOP & SHOP, OLD NAVY, CVS, PRICE CHOPPERS, MARSHALLS, WALGREENS, MICHAELS, BARNES AND NOBLE AND OTHER STORES

Prefer to give a monetary donation? You can donate through PayPal or by sending a check made out to Friends of the Southborough Youth Commission with "Holiday Giving" in the memo. All donations of gift cards, checks or PayPal donations must be received by November 30th to be used for this year's program and can be mailed to:

Southborough Youth and Family Services, 17 Common Street, Southborough, MA 01772.

Prefer to drop it at our office? Please email or call first!

Questions or want to apply for this year's program?

Please call Christina at 508-481-5676

or email cmccarthy@southboroughma.com

United Parishes of Southborough, Inc. Food Pantry

c/o Pilgrim Church P.O. Box 281 15 Common Street Southborough, MA 01772

southboroughfoodpantry@gmail.com 508-485-4847

Dear Food Pantry Clients,

In this changing environment, due to the increased impact of the Corona Virus, we are once again implementing a new procedure effective immediately for your safety as well as the safety of all our volunteers. We will continue this procedure as long as we are able.

The **latest** schedule for the Southborough Food Pantry will be: Thursday evenings from 6:30-7:30 p.m. (Clients only, please!) Friday mornings from 9:30-10:30 a.m. (Clients only, please!) Please note: we **will not** be open on Tuesday evenings.

By <u>4 p.m.</u> on Wednesdays, please provide us by e-mail (southboroughfoodpantry@gmail.com) a list of your needs, being as specific as possible. Give us a preference for the meat you would like. We will fill it if we have it or when you pick up your order, we will offer you an alternative meat selection. If you do not have access to an e-mail, please call us at 508-485-4847, wait for the Pantry prompt and then leave your name and phone number. We will call you back to get your order.

NEW! When you come to the Pantry on Thursday evening or Friday morning, please stay in your car. Someone will direct you where to park. Masks are required from this point on. When directed, get out of your car and go into Fellowship Hall. Follow the arrows inside to look at the selections and get your grocery bags which will be on a cart. Take your cart with all your groceries to your car. Return the cart to the Pantry person outside. All carts will be sanitized before use by the next person. **If you do not feel safe coming inside at this time, we will bring your groceries out to you.

IMPORTANT: This pick up service is for all clients unless you are sick or personally unable to get to the Pantry. For these clients, we will deliver to your outside door or patio.

We thank all of you for your cooperation. We pray that the impact of this virus will quickly come to an end.

Sincerely,

The Food Pantry Coordinators

Please keep these times for Pantry Clients only. Donations can be made at any other time by leaving items in bins by the pantry door at Pilgrim Church (or at local parish collection sites). Please secure donation bin lid, especially during inclement weather.

SOUTHBOROUGH YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

we are still here to serve

While our building is closed to the public, SYFS is still available to the residents of Southborough.

Our need-based services are here to help all families affected by Covid-19. If you are worried about a bill, heat, a car payment or food, our Emergency Fund may be able to help you.

For more resources, check our website: https://www.southboroughtown.com/youthand-family-services

For questions about how to apply for help, please call/text Shannon at (978) 310-1182 or email skinayman@southboroughma.com



(3)

Jesus said, "What I say to you, I say to everyone." What did He say to them?

Follow the directions to find the answer.

DISCIPLES

Switch the "C" and the "E."

Change the "E" to an "A" and the "P" to a "W."

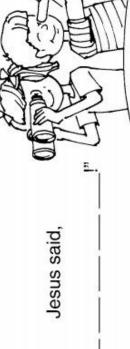
Change the second "I" to a "T."

Change the "D" to an "H."

Switch the "H" and the last "S." Delete the "I."

Move the "W" to the first position. Delete the "L."

Delete both of the "S"s.



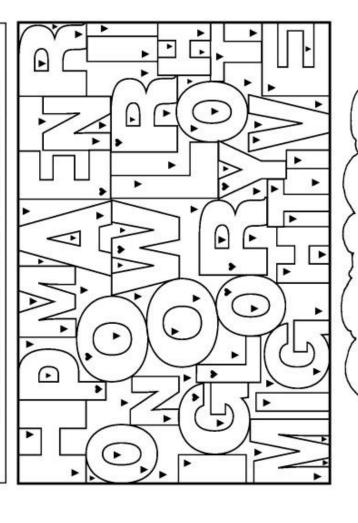
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Ages 7+

Be Ready for Jesus

At the end of the age, people will see the Son of Man coming. How will He come?

Shade in all the shapes with a v to find the answers.



St. Anne Church 20 Boston Road Southborough, MA 01772

"The Son of Man will come in clouds

with great

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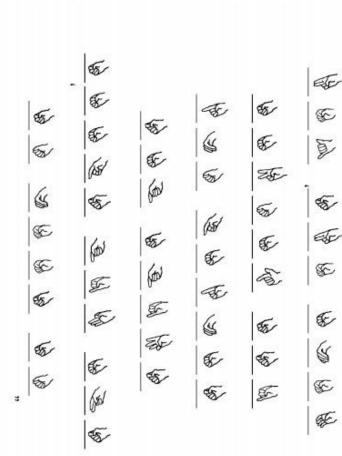
Fill in the remaining words below, top to bottom, left to right.

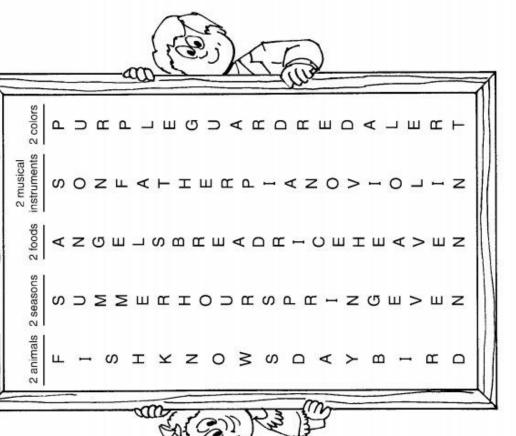
Circle words in each column as directed

What else did Jesus say?

Jesus said to learn a lesson from the fig tree. What did He say?

Σ de B Use this sign language code to fill in the blanks. To The 5 IEE W O S o (F) E € ^ш (\$0 玉。 (a **能**0 \$0 Œ ° (yz 4





"No one _____ about that ____ or ____

not ____ the ____ in___

nor the ____, but only the ______

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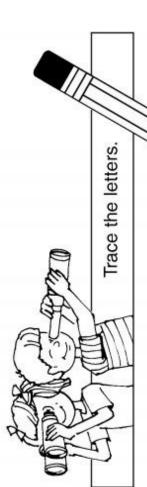
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November 29, 2020 • Mark 13:24-37

Ages 3+

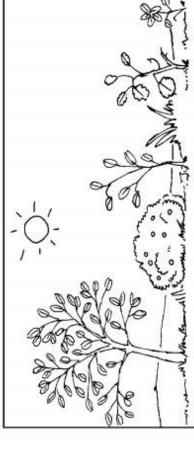
Be found watching and ready.

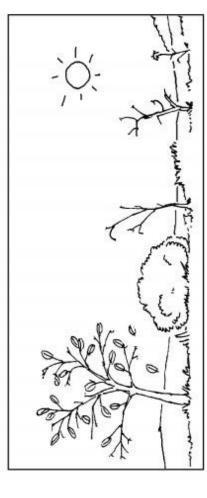


Circle 7 differences in the 2nd picture.

Watch for Jesus to come.

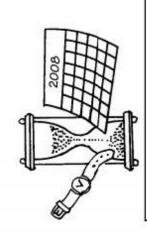
Jesus Will Come





St. Anne Church 20 Boston Road Southborough, MA 01772

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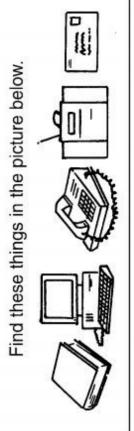


Jesus all the time.

Live as a follower of

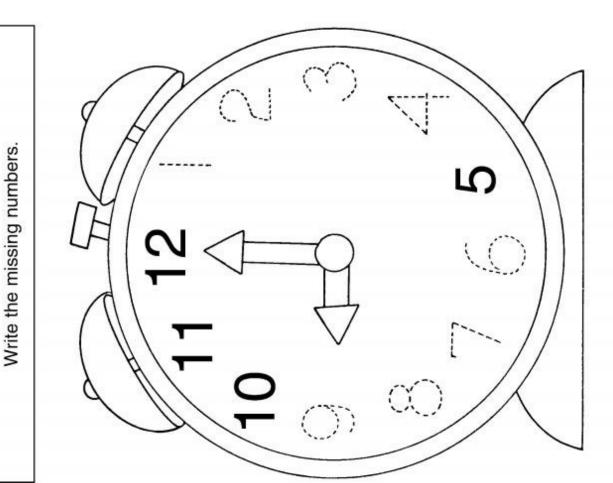


Spread God's message to others.









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St. Anne Response to Phase One of the Reopening

St. Anne Parish is committed to the health and well-being of our people and community. Please find the guidelines that are intended for use in the first phase of lifting the suspension on public celebrations of the Sacred Liturgy, as announced by Bishop McManus on May 18, 2020.

Restriction on the size of Public Gatherings: In his order of May 18, 2020, Governor Baker has mandated a strict limitation of forty percent of the building occupancy permit of any public gathering during the first phase of the reopening. Any public celebration of the Liturgy or public devotions should be limited to forty percent of the capacity of the Church, as recorded on the occupancy permit, including liturgical ministers, the faithful and all support personnel. Keeping this forty percent policy in mind, our church can hold only 30 parishioners. Once there are 30 parishioners in the church, an usher will direct the faithful to the Parish Hall abiding by the same restrictions in the church.

Continuing Suspension of the Sunday Obligation: Because older adults and those with underlying health conditions continue to be advised to avoid public assemblies, the suspension of the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays will remain in force until December 31, 2020.

Protocol Education: Parishioners will be reminded of the continuing necessity of social distancing and what they is expect when they return to Church with the appropriate educational materials in the form of bulletin inserts, Flocknote, social media and parish websites. There will be reminders at the start of the Masses too.

THE CHURCH BUILDING

Holy Water: All standing Holy Water will be removed from all fonts. Small individual bottles of Holy Water might be appropriately provided for parishioners at their request. Holy Water is also kept in larger closed container in front of the altar, from which the faithful might draw a personal supply.

Hymnals and Missalettes: Hymnals and Missalettes are removed from the pews and are stored for possible future use. Please use online sources for the daily readings, etc. which may be accessed on their cell phone.

Marking the Floor: The floor will be marked with removable tape at six-foot intervals approaching all communion stations and approaching the rest rooms in the parish hall.

Cleaning: Pew backs and surfaces in bathrooms will be disinfected after every Mass. Door handles and other surfaces will also be disinfected daily. We would appreciate volunteers soon after the Mass to sanitize pews.

PEOPLE ARRIVING AT CHURCH

Masks and Social Distancing: All members of the congregation should be masked and required to observe a minimum of a six-foot social distance. Liturgical ministers are not masked, except for the isolated instances noted below. People with medical/disabling conditions are exempted. We request them to go to the cry room or foyer at the main entrance of the church. It is mainly to avoid the unnecessary anxieties that would create among other parishioners.

Seating: In order to promote social distancing, we have taped every other pew. As you enter the church, you will notice blue taped pews which should not be occupied. Please occupy the ones that has small blue square tape. We recommend that only three people should be seated in a pew, unless it is a family.

Ushers: We would like to have two ushers for every Mass and would appreciate if you could volunteer. We hope to have younger and healthier parishioners. Their tasks would be:

- Wear a mask and assure that everyone entering the church has a mask or other suitable face covering;
- Direct those entering the Church to observe social distancing;
- At the time for Distribution of Holy Communion, direct communicants to leave their pews one row at a time while observing the requisite social distancing.

One Entrance: There will be only one entrance to the church in order to reduce the overflow of parishioners. The door near the ramp will be open and all other doors will be locked.

THE MASS

Singing: A cantor and organist may lead the music. No congregational singing is allowed, with the exception of the Gospel Acclamation, Sanctus, Memorial Acclamation, Great Amen and Agnus Dei. The Opening and Closing music are instrumental or sung only by the cantor/organist. All the other parts of the Mass are recited.

Seating of Liturgical Ministers: Liturgical ministers should be seated at a minimal distance of six feet from each other. The first pew in front of the ambo is reserved for lectors and Extra ordinary ministers. Please find acnearby seat if someone comes with a wheel chair.

Processions: Entrance and recessional processions will be suspended. The Priest will be entering the sanctuary directly from the sacristy.

Collection: Instead of passing collection baskets, please place your weekly donations in the basket, kept near the entrance of the church.

Offertory Procession; The offertory procession is suspended.

Preparation of the Gifts: The priest will take care of the preparation of gifts. In case we have altar servers, they will be asked to keep a social distance of six-foot. Servers bringing the gifts to the Priest or washing the hands at the lavabo should wear a mask. This is the only time during the Mass when the servers will wear a mask.

Reception of Holy Communion in the church: Hand sanitizer will be kept in the middle of the church, approximately at the fourth pew near the sanctuary. As each person leaves their pew to come for Communion, use the hand sanitizer to sanitize one's hands before receiving Holy Communion.

Reception of Holy Communion in the Parish Hall: The extra ordinary minister will bring Holy Communion to you and so you do not need to stand in queue. The usher will give you the hand sanitizer before you receive Holy Communion.

All Physical Contact Avoided: The invitation to exchange the Sign of Peace and the shaking of hands with parishioners at the end of Mass are suspended.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Both Species: The distribution of the Precious Blood to all is suspended.

Communion on the Tongue: We encourage all the parishioners to receive Holy Communion on their hands. If someone still wishes to receive on the tongue, the priest and extra ordinary ministers will **not** refuse.

Ministers of Holy Communion: Priests and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be masked but not gloved. They will use hand sanitizer before and after the distribution of Holy Communion;

During the Distribution of Holy Communion: While the distribution of Holy Communion takes place in the usual manner, care should be taken to avoid all contact with the hands or tongue of the communicant. To this end, a small table should be placed in front of the altar with an unfolded corporal and a bottle of hand sanitizer. Whenever the minister of Holy Communion senses that he/she has touched the hand or tongue of a communicant he/she stops immediately, places the ciborium on the corporal, purifies his/her fingers, and returns to the distribution of Holy Communion.

Cleansing Vessels: All Communion Vessels should be thoroughly washed after each Mass once they have been purified.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS

The Sacrament of Confession: Traditional confessionals are unsafe due to the closeness of the Priest and penitent separated only by a grill not designed to prevent virus transmission. Likewise, the transmission of the virus from one penitent to another is possible via the surfaces touched and the dangers from aerosolization of the virus in a small space. The small size of most "Rooms of Reconciliation" present similar potential dangers. We will use our **cry room** as confessional room for time being. If the weather is good, we might have it near the ramp of our parish office. Whether the confession is heard in the cry room or near the ramp, both priest and penitent should wear a mask or face covering. The confession should not last longer than **three to five minutes**, in order to limit exposure of both Priest and penitent.

The confession will be heard from 4:15 pm to 5:00 pm on Saturdays. You are welcome to call and make appointment at any other time.

Anointing of the Sick: The priest will begin to return to administering the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick to their parishioners. He will discuss with the person or family with regard to Covid+ and non-Covid+ patients before going to anoint.

Funerals: Funeral Masses may be celebrated with the same restrictions as for any Mass, including the appropriate provisions for social distancing and liturgical adaptations. The family should be seated by the Funeral Director upon arriving in Church. Only 30 people are allowed to attend the funeral. If there are more than 30 people, the Parish Hall will be set up with closed circuit TV.

Weddings: The Sacrament of Matrimony may be celebrated with the same restrictions as for any Mass, including the appropriate provisions for social distancing and liturgical adaptations. Only 30 people are allowed to attend the wedding. The Parish Hall will also be available.

Baptisms: Only individual Baptisms may be celebrated with a prudent limitation on the number of people present and the requisite considerations for social distancing. All rites should take place with the family remaining in the pew, with the exception of the moment of Baptism, when either the parents or godparents approach the font while carrying the child and then, after the explanatory rites, return to their pew. All who are present wear masks throughout, with the exception of the Priest and the child to be baptized. Only 30 people are allowed to attend the baptism. All baptisms will be celebrated **outside** of the Mass until further notice.

Confirmations: Additional information will be forthcoming concerning the Sacrament of Confirmation as civil restrictions on crowd sizes are further modified.

First Holy Communion: Our Religious Education Director and First Holy Communion teachers are discussing with the First Holy Communicants' parents about the possibility of having the First Holy Communion this year. We will update plan taking into account family responses and best health practices.

Adoration on Wednesdays: We are planning to resume Holy Hour on Wednesdays. We will reach out to those who usually sign up for the Adoration to check their availability. We will update the parish community once this is confirmed.

Parish office will be open: The Parish Office will be open from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. Please remember to wear a face covering and to follow social distancing rules. We encourage our parishioners to come and be seated in the couch placed at the entrance of the Parish Office rather than walking in to the secretary's office.

Seminarian for pastoral exposure: We are happy to announce that we will have a seminarian for this summer to have pastoral exposure. Please read the bulletin for more information.

Masses: We have regular Mass at 9:00 am from Monday to Thursday. We will accommodate only 30 parishioners for the weekday Mass. We also have weekend Masses: Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday 8:30 am, and 10:30 am. The Sunday 5:30 pm. Mass will be suspended until the fall. The 5:00 p.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses will continue to be livestreamed.

Live Streaming: Regular Masses and Weekend Masses will still be live streamed and so our parishioners who are unable to participate in the Eucharist physically, will be able to have spiritual participation.



Additional Questions on Phase I Re-Opening

In the course of the first week of reopening, priests and other pastoral leaders have worked assiduously to faithfully implement the guidelines mandated by Bishop McManus in his decree of May 18, 2020. As many of these priests have also sought the guidance of the Office for Divine Worship in implementing these guidelines, the following clarifications are offered for the benefit of our readers.

Should bulletins be distributed at the end of Mass?

Epidemiologists caution against the distribution of printed materials to the faithful at Mass. The risk if such materials are left on a table or in a box is that repeated accidental contact with surfaces may leave traces of the virus. The risk if ushers pass out bulletins at the end of Mass stems from the additional violation of social distance between the usher and members of the Congregation and the interruption of an ordered and socially distant exit from the Church. Therefore, we continue to distribute bulletins by emails only. If you would like to receive a bulletin, please inform the office.

How should hosts for the faithful be safely consecrated?

A ciborium or other vessel with hosts for distribution to the faithful should be placed on a corporal at some distance from the breath of the celebrant. The ciborium should be covered with a pall except from the epiclesis through the words of consecration.

Is the true maximum capacity of a Church always forty percent of building capacity? No. The true maximum capacity should be the number of seats possible while maintaining a minimal social distance of six feet up to a maximum of forty percent of building capacity.

Can the family provide readers for funerals?

Reservations concerning the use of readers or other ministers seated in the congregation grow from the repeated contact with surfaces on the pew and ambo. Priests may choose to discourage ministers from sitting in the congregation or find a way to wipe down the pew and ambo immediately after their service is completed.

