

SACRED HEART CHURCH

302 S. KINNEY BLVD.

MT. PLEASANT, MI 48858

PHONE 989-772-1385 FAX 989-773-9118

May 20, 2020

My Dear Parishioners and Friends:

Praise Be Jesus Christ, Now and Forever Amen!

The First Letter of St. Paul tells us: "There is cause for rejoicing here. You may for a time have to suffer the stress of many trials, but this is so your faith, which is more precious than the passing splendor of fire-tried gold, may its genuineness lead to praise, glory, and honor when Jesus Christ appears" (1 Peter 1:6-7). We have experienced our nine-week trial without attending Masses or receiving Sacraments. *Now is the time for Alleluias and celebrations of the Sacraments to begin again.*

Bishop Gruss is permitting all the churches in the Diocese of Saginaw to resume the celebration of public Masses on Monday, May 25, 2020. Since this is Memorial Day, we will have our Mass in the church at 9:00 a.m. I realize we usually have the Memorial Day Mass at Calvary Cemetery, however, due to the stringent guidelines and required social distancing, it will be difficult to celebrate at the cemetery.

After Monday, we will continue with our regular weekday Mass schedule: Tuesday at 12 Noon, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8:00 a.m.; and weekend Masses Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. For your information, just before the pandemic hit, the Parish Council met and discussed our Sunday Mass schedule. It was decided to keep the Sunday Mass schedule the same throughout the year. This avoids the confusion associated with changing Mass times, plus our parishioners and visitors will more easily remember Mass times if we keep them consistent year-round.

Following are necessary conditions for public Masses: *(For details, please consult the information on the reverse of this letter.)*

- Masks are to be worn by the faithful in and around the church.
- Cleaning/sanitizing of the church must occur after every liturgical gathering.
- Physical distancing must be practiced in the church and on church property.
- Attendance at any liturgical gathering must not exceed 25 percent of total capacity. Reservations will be required.
- The distribution of Holy Communion will be at the conclusion of the Mass and only the bread will be distributed. More instructions will be given for the reception of Communion when you come to church.
- Funerals, Weddings, and Baptisms may resume, as long as the guidelines above are followed.
- All the faithful of the Diocese are dispensed from their Sunday obligation to attend Mass through August 30, 2020.

Please read the additional information provided and adhere to the precautions. Fr. Don and I look forward to welcoming you back to Mass when you are able, with respect to the protocols for everyone's health and safety. We will count on help from our ushers and other parish volunteers. If you are available to help, please contact Deacon Jim at the Parish Office, (989) 772-1385.

We appreciate your financial and emotional support which has continued through the COVID-19 restrictions. May God continue to bless you and your families, and keep you safe.

Sincerely,



Fr. Loren Kalinowski, Pastor