



May 6, 2020

To: All Parishioners of St. Anne & St. Jude

RE: Guidelines for Resumption of Mass

Dear Parishioners,

The Bishop of the Diocese of Charleston has announced the resumption of Mass starting Monday, May 11th with strict guidelines. I would like to inform you in writing how we are going to implement these guidelines as we begin public worship on the said date in our parish.

Daily Mass for the parish of Saint Anne and Saint Jude in Sumter will resume on **Monday, May 11th** with the following parameters.

- Daily Mass will be celebrated Monday through Saturday at **7 a.m.** in the **Saint Jude location ONLY**.
- Seating will be limited to 30 parishioners.
- All pews will be clearly marked with tape to show parishioners where to sit.
- Parishioners will be asked to wear Masks in the church and appropriate social distancing will be followed at all times.
- The parish will supply Masks to anyone who does not have one.
- Live Streaming is a possibility for those unable to attend.
- There will be no morning gatherings permitted in any of the buildings or in the parking lot after Mass. Parishioners will be strongly encouraged to leave directly from Mass and return to their homes.
- Adoration will resume on **Tuesday, May 12th** and will be held at the St. Jude location after Daily Mass from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The weekend Masses for St. Anne and St. Jude Catholic parish will resume on **May 16th and May 17th**. With the following parameters:

- Sunday masses are to be celebrated at the **Saint Anne location ONLY**.
- **FOUR (4) weekend Masses** will be celebrated to accommodate as many of our parishioners as possible.
Saturday vigil at 5 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m., 10 a.m., and 12 p.m. in Spanish

- Mass is to be held outside in the Green Space and Parking areas to allow the maximum number of people and still maintain safe and appropriate social distancing.
- Parishioners will be asked to remain in their vehicles during Mass.
- For those who will park in a place where it is impossible to hear/see the Mass may bring their own chair and can sit on the side of the parking area while maintaining appropriate social distancing.
- Audio of the Mass celebration will be broadcast to be picked up by car radios.
- All parishioners will be strongly encouraged to stay in their vehicles during and after Mass.
- A restroom will be available only in the case of an emergency.
- An orderly flow of traffic has been outlined and will be directed by pre-selected members of the Knights of Columbus and Knights of Peter Claver.
- Cars will be guided to pre-marked spaces for parking.
- During the receipt of Holy Communion, the parishioners will exit their vehicles and be guided to receive communion. There will be 5 stations to receive communion.
- Parishioners will be given the opportunity to leave their Sunday offertory envelopes in the baskets provided at the exit of the parking lot.
- Offertory baskets will be held and secured by members of our Hospitality/ Ushers who are background screen to handle money by the diocese.
- The Hospitality/Usher's will be asked to wear masks and gloves while taking up the collection as well as while distributing the bulletin.
- Disposable printed material with the daily music and readings will be distributed on the way into Mass and thrown away promptly after mass.
- In the interest of time and safety, parishioners will be encouraged and directed to exit and empty the parking lot in a quick and orderly fashion. This will discourage congregating as well as allow us to set up for the next Mass.

Regarding the sanitation of the Two (2) Parish locations of Saint Anne and Saint Jude in Sumter:

- All exposed surfaces are to be sanitized prior to Mass as well as after each Mass.
- The number of parishioners allowed in the parish will be limited to **30 at the St. Jude** location and **50 at the Saint Anne location.**

Sacraments

- Baptisms will be held for one family at a time. (no communal Baptism)
- First Communion will be postponed until after May 31st. (schedule to be determined)
- Confirmation will be postponed until after July 1st. (To be scheduled by the Bishop's Office)
- Reconciliation: The Bishop has granted general absolution through the month of May. Private reconciliation may commence on June 1.
- Anointing of the Sick: Priests are asked to generously respond to those who are in proximate danger of death and who request anointing and viaticum.
- The Sacraments of Initiation and Reception into Full Communion for those in the RCIA process are to be celebrated at the vigil for Pentecost (May 30) or on Pentecost Sunday.
- Weddings and funerals may be celebrated with the limitations stated above.

All Faith Formation programs to include Religious Education, Sacrament Preparation Programs, Adult Bible Study, RCIA and all Adult education will continue to be provided online through Zoom meetings, Google classroom and other online platforms until further notice.

These guidelines are in accordance with the Diocesan Directives for the Resumption of Mass. Other parish activities, gatherings, meetings, and the like are still suspended until further notice.

We thank God for hearing our prayers and for accompanying us during this quarantine period. Know that your health and safety are our utmost priority. If you feel sick, you must remain at home, as should vulnerable and at-risk populations. If you are over 65 years of age, have respiratory issues or are immunocompromised, please stay home.

You are all in my thoughts and prayers. We are in this together. St. Anne & St. Jude, Pray for us!

Sincerely,
Fr. Giovannie Nunez, CRM

Pastor