



ST. JOSEPH PARISH

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DEXTER, MICHIGAN 48130

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Our Catholic Comeback

May 19, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

I am happy to invite you to our first community Masses on **Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2020 at 8am, 10am and 12noon at our Country Church.** Our Saturday May 30 Vigil Mass will be private for those joining our Catholic faith. We will return to Saturday at 5pm and Sunday at 9am and 11am on the weekend of June 6 and 7, 2020.

To help us all be safe, I ask the following:

- All parishioners should wear masks when in the church building.
- Seating will be limited to 200 people per Mass (25% of our 800 seats).
- Families in one household can sit together.
- To help with social distancing, please sit in every other pew 6 feet apart or by yourself in the chairs around the back of the worship space.
- We will not be using the parish's hymnals or missalettes.
- Worship aids will be provided with the necessary prayers and the Responsorial Psalm.
- There will not be an offertory collection or gifts procession.
- Please leave your gift in the baskets at the back of each section after Mass.
- For the Lord's Prayer, no hand holding unless with family members.
- At the Sign of Peace, wave or give the peace sign.

For Communion:

- **Please receive communion only in the hand.**
- There will be 5 regular Body of Christ stations.
- Pews will be dismissed to keep social distancing; please walk 6 feet apart.
- When you receive communion:
 - When next in line, remove your mask.
 - Receive communion in the hand.

- Consume the Body of Christ.
- Return your mask to cover your face.
- Return to your seat.

All Music:

- With masks sadly we cannot sing easily.
- We will sing the Responsorial Psalm and the Alleluia before the Gospel.

Mass Attendance from Bishop Earl Boyea:

- Please know the obligation to attend Sunday Masses remains suspended across the Diocese of Lansing until at least July 31, 2020. **(NEW REVISED DATE IS SEPTEMBER 6, 2020)**
- If your age, health, or the pandemic give you concern please stay at home and watch Mass on television or on your computer.

All Liturgical Ministers:

If you are a liturgical minister, please watch for a separate email inviting your participation at Sunday Mass.

I Encourage:

- Please use the bathroom at home before you leave.
- The church bathrooms will remain open.
- Please keep your socializing before and after Mass to a minimum.

My friends, it is time for us to begin our **Catholic Comeback** – to pray together, to receive the Body of Christ together, to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus together, and to be energized by the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. It will be different, it will be a challenge, but we can do it. Please know I have missed your smiling faces and look forward to seeing your smiling eyes.

See you real soon!

Shalom,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Brendan J. Walsh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Fr. Brendan J. Walsh
Pastor