Saint James Church
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MAILING ADDRESS: PO BOX 60, MANVILLE, RI 02838-0060
401-766-1558
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STATE-CERTIFIED VEHICLE INSPECTIONS FACILITY
RI EMISSIONS SAFETY

Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 24, 2020
Our Veterans Candle burns this week
In Memory of
Rene Fortier
Requested by his Wife, Claire
Please keep this intention in your prayers.

Welcome Back…
St. Ambrose Church is looking forward to welcoming our parishioners back to church for the celebration of public masses on May 30, 2020. We are carefully reviewing directives issued by the Diocese of Providence and are working to ensure a safe return for all. We will continue to keep you updated as we prepare to reopen the church doors to the public. In the meantime, please view the video from the Diocese, “Returning to Public Celebrations of Holy Mass in Your Parish”, for a preview of what you can expect when public celebrations of the mass resume in the Diocese.

You can view the video at https://youtu.be/oTHmgsi83uc

The church doors are open at St. James Church from 8:00am - 5:00pm daily for individual prayer.

Please remember to practice social distancing when you visit.

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On Saturday at the 4:00pm live-stream mass, we will pray for those intentions that were scheduled during the period of no public masses, May 18, 2020 to May 24, 2020.

Please contact the office if you would like to reschedule any Mass Intentions during the time that public masses have been suspended.

50th Anniversary

Fr. Desaulniers, God bless you on your golden jubilee.

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Weekly Collections
There are no weekly collections to report in light of the cancellation of public masses throughout the Diocese due COVID-19 Coronavirus.

We encourage you to continue to mail in your budget envelopes and other special and second collection contributions during this time.

This is a great time to consider On-Line Giving. Please visit our website and the link to sign up for On-Line Giving.

Thank you for your continued generosity during this difficult and challenging time!

How do I make a Spiritual Communion?
Below are recommendations for how to make a ‘spiritual communion’ when unable to participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. These are only recommendations and can always be adapted based upon personal needs.

- Gather with others in your household and begin a time of prayer with the sign of the cross.
- Take time to read and reflect upon the readings from Sunday Mass.
- The readings are available at usccb.org and a Sunday Gospel reflection can be found at the same website or during Lent at diocesesprovidence.org
- Share prayer intentions quietly or aloud.
  - Pray the Holy Spirit’s Prayer.
  - Pray the following prayer of spiritual communion (see below).
- Close with the sign of the cross.

Spiritual Communion Prayer
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 in 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.

Faith Formation
A Note from Moira McCarty...
Dear St. James Community,
I am writing to all of you to announce that I am stepping down as your Coordinator of Faith Formation. I have accepted a position at Sts. Aidan and Patrick Church in Cumberland, RI as their Pastoral Coordinator. It has been a joy and privilege to be able to serve this community as I have always considered it to be my spiritual home but I am eager for this new and exciting opportunity. You will still see me helping with youth ministry projects and other events. I will continue to pray for all of you and wish you all of you good happiness and health.

Please join us in wishing Moira the best of luck and God’s blessings on her new journey.

Grades K-4
The celebration of First Holy Communion for the 2019-2020 Grade 2 class has been rescheduled to Sunday, November 1, 2020 (All Saint’s Day).

First Penance and Reconciliation will take place two weeks prior which is the weekend after Columbus Day. It will most likely take place on Saturday, October 17, 2020.

We have set these dates in the hope that Rhode Island’s reopening smoothly transitions from one phase to the next. We will continue to monitor directives from the State and the Diocese regarding social gatherings and the celebration of public masses and other services.

Grades 5 through 8
Announcements will be made as necessary.

Let the Bells Ring One More Time...
The church bells will ring one more time for approximately 5 minutes at 9:00am this Sunday, May 24, 2020.

This symbolic gesture has carried us through the stay-at-home orders during the Coronavirus crisis. The ringing of the bells has signaled hope reminding us that the church was here and eagerly awaiting the return of its parishioners.

That day is almost here...
Churches in Rhode Island will re-open for public masses on May 30, 2020.

Let’s keep our parishioners connected especially during these uncertain times.
Make a phone call.
Send a text.
Have a Zoom meeting.
Send a card or letter.

Just reach out.
Everyone needs to stay connected!!!

Memorial Day
Mass will be celebrated live-stream via Facebook from the St. James Cemetery at 10:00am on Monday, May 25, 2020.

Any attendees must remain in their vehicles during the mass.

God Bless America!
Returning to Mass in time of COVID-19

"We don’t know the details of the future, but we know that our lives will not end in emptiness and frustration ... Because we have hope, we live differently. Because of our hope, we will learn from the past, and will embrace the future with a renewed confidence and a joyful, invincible spirit."
—Most Rev. Thomas J. Tobin, D.D., Bishop of Providence

The advent of the novel coronavirus has marked our community substantially over the past two months. Whether directly succumbing to the disease it causes, or experiencing its far-reaching economic and emotional effects, all of us have been affected in some way. In an effort to protect the health and safety of our local communities, especially vulnerable populations, Bishop Tobin suspended the public celebration of Mass in March. This was a painful, but necessary decision in view of the common good. As the state begins its phased approach to re-open sectors of our community, the public celebration of Mass will resume on May 30, 2020, the Vigil of the Solemnity of Pentecost. This is a joyous moment for our local Church as we gather again as the Body of Christ. Resuming the public celebration of Mass will look differently than before, given the recommendations of health experts. The following points highlight some of these changes.

1. Catholics will continue to be dispensed from Sunday Mass and Holy Day Masses
   While public Masses will resume, vulnerable populations, the elderly, and those with underlying health conditions are asked to follow the most up to date health regulations and remain at home. There are many who might feel uncomfortable returning to Mass. They, too, have legitimate reason to remain at home. Bishop Tobin has extended the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Day Masses until further notice.

2. Access to Mass will be limited
   In order to prevent risk of infection, attendance at Mass will be limited to a percentage of the church’s capacity as specified in the fire code. Some parishes will request a “reservation” or ticket system, or find ways to split up parishioners alphabetically in as equitable a manner as possible.

3. Hand hygiene and masks are key
   Parishioners will be expected to sanitize their hands immediately upon entry to the church. Likewise, they must wear a mask at all times, with the exception of receiving Holy Communion.

4. Pews will be sectioned off
   In order to maintain six feet distance between parishioners, parishes will mark off sections of pews where parishioners can safely sit.

5. Singing will be limited
   Because of the risk of infection due to increased aerosolized particles, singing must be limited. Hymnals will be removed from churches.

6. Parishioners will receive Holy Communion in a safe manner
   Parishioners will take off their masks to receive Holy Communion, but the priest or other minister may wear a mask when distributing Holy Communion. The priest or other minister will always sanitize his hands before this time, and whenever he accidentally comes into contact with a person. Parishioners are encouraged to receive Holy Communion on the hand; but another option would be to refrain from receiving Holy Communion and make an act of spiritual communion instead.

7. The church will be sanitized after every Mass
   To ensure everyone’s safety, parish staff or volunteers will sanitize commonly touched surfaces and pews before and after every celebration of Mass.

8. Budget envelopes will be submitted prior to Mass or as you leave
   Instead of “passing the basket,” a secure receptacle should be available so parishioners can drop off their budget envelopes before or after Mass.

9. Avoid personal contact with anyone
   The sign of peace remains suspended; physical contact must be avoided at all costs.

10. Those who are sick must stay home
    Anyone who has symptoms of any sickness (even mild symptoms) may not attend the public celebration of Mass.