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COUNTRY GIFT SHOP | Attorney-at-Law  
334-4545  
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289 RAILROAD ST.  
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PELLET FUELPIPES & MANY STOVE ACCESSORIES | **ERNIE’S AUTO REPAIR**  
90 WINTER ST.  
769-1967  
STATE-CERTIFIED VEHICLE INSPECTIONS FACILITY  
RI EMISSIONS SAFETY |
Dear Parishioners of St. James Parish

It is my great desire to return to public worship at St. James Church on the feast of Pentecost and we will do so on that feast of the Holy Spirit, but I wanted to highlight some guidelines that we will be following to ensure the physical safety and peace of mind for all parishioners of St. James Church. We are adhering to the directives of the Diocese of Providence and the directives of the State of Rhode Island.

* To assist in prayerful social distancing we have taped off every other pew. So a pew that is taped off is one that you should not enter. This is to give space and distance between the worshipers.

* The number of people that will be allowed to enter St. James Church for a mass has been set at 150 people.

* All parishioners will be required to enter St. James Church through the center front door. Parishioners may exit by any door but entrance is only by the center front door. We will have hand sanitizing dispensers at the vestibule of St. James Church for parishioners use. Parishioners may also use their own personal hand sanitizing solution, but all parishioners will be expected to sanitize their hands immediately upon entry to the St. James Church.

* Please remember that Bishop Tobin has continued to dispense everyone in the Diocese of Providence from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Day Masses until further notice. So if you are hesitant due to underlying health conditions to attend or display any symptoms you should not attend the celebration of Mass at St. James.

* Parishioners will be required to wear a face mask for the duration of the celebration of Mass, with the exception of receiving Holy Communion.

* One of the differences that you will notice at this time of the COVID-19 pandemic is that hymnals, missalettes, bulletins and holy water have all been removed from the church.

* Please remember that we will continue to live stream all our celebrations of Mass on the St. James Faith Formation Facebook page. Also keep in mind that it is not necessary to receive Holy Communion at every Mass. If you are concerned or apprehensive about receiving, then please enter into a ‘spiritual communion’ with the Lord.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Rev. Thomas J. Ferland
Pastor, St. James Church
Daily Mass Readings

June 29, 2020 to July 5, 2020

Monday: Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19
Tuesday: Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12; Ps 5:4b-6a, 6b-7, 8; Mt 8:23-27
Wednesday: Am 5:14-15, 21-24; Ps 50:7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16bc-17; Mt 8:28-34
Thursday: Am 7:10-17; Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11; Mt 9:1-8
Friday: Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117:1b, 2; Jn 20:24-29
Saturday: Am 9:11-15; Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14; Mt 9:14-17
Sunday: Zcc 9:9-10; Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14; Rom 6:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

Weekly Collections

Week of June 21, 2020

Weekly Budget $ 1,599.00
On-Line Giving $ 782.50
Capital Improvement $ 11.00
Poor Box $ 80.00
Second Collections $ 218.00
Votive Candles $ 46.00

As always, thank you for your continued generosity during this difficult and challenging time!
We depend solely upon your weekly support to meet our weekly parish expenses.
We encourage you to continue to mail in your budget envelopes and other special and second collection contributions during this time.
This is also a great time to consider On-Line Giving.
Please visit our website and the link to sign up for On-Line Giving.

Faith Formation

2020-2021

We would like to announce that Paul Adam is the new Faith Formation Coordinator for Grades K-8.
Paul has been a part of the St. James Youth Ministry team for many years and will continue to lend his time and talent to that ministry.
Paul sent an email this week to all faith formation families to introduce himself in his new position and to reach out regarding the upcoming Faith Formation Year and the Sacraments of First Penance and Reconciliation for those children who were in grade 2 this past year.
Please check your email and kindly reply to Paul with any questions or concerns so that he can prepare for the upcoming year.
Paul can be reached at: stjamesfaithformation@yahoo.com

A Note of Thanks...

Lincoln High School Class of 1980
Thank you to the Lincoln High School Class of 1980 for their generous donation of $2,000.00 to the St. James Food Pantry. Unfortunately the alumni of the LHS Class of 1980 could not celebrate their reunion in person, so they chose to celebrate by making a donation to our Food Pantry. Their choice to celebrate their 40th reunion by sharing their treasures with us is heartwarming and uplifting. Their generosity will greatly help so many of our brothers and sisters in need during these difficult times.
May God continue to bless you!
Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence

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.