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 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

Welcome back ...
We are so happy to see you!
The celebration of public masses resumed the weekend of May 30-31, 2020
St. James Weekend Mass Times:
Saturday 4:00pm
Sunday 10:00am
*St. James Weekday Mass Times:
Tuesday and Thursday 8:30am
*Please note that the weekday mass has been changed to 8:30am.
The change is on a trial basis at this time.

Social distancing does not mean that we need to be spiritually apart...

Welcome Back…

We will continue to carefully review directives as they are issued by the State and the Diocese of Providence as we move through the phases of reopening. 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/oTHngs8I3uc

Prayer for Healing from Coronavirus

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.
At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus’ pain, with steadfast faith.
You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.
We are certain that you will provide, so that as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

Amen.
**Daily Mass Readings**

**July 6, 2020 to July 12, 2020**

**Monday:** Hos 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22; Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 9:18-26

**Tuesday:** Hos 6:4-7, 11-13; Ps 115:3-4, 5-6, 7ab-8, 9-10; Mt 5:32-38

**Wednesday:** Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Mt 10:1-7

**Thursday:** Hos 11:1-4, 6e-9; Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16; Mt 10:7-15

**Friday:** Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14 and 17; Mt 10:16-23

**Saturday:** Is 6:1-8; Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5; Mt 10:24-33

**Sunday:** Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 or Mt 13:1-9

If you would like a missalette, please contact Robin at the St. James Parish Office and we will make arrangements to get the book to you.

If you would like a missalette, please contact Robin at the St. James Parish Office and we will make arrangements to get the book to you. I can pick up your book, please contact the Parish Office and we will make arrangements to get the book to you.

If you would like to join this most important ministry, please contact the Parish Office and we will make arrangements to get the book to you.

- Pray the following prayer of spiritual communion.
- Gather with others in your household and begin a time of prayer with the sign of the cross.
- Never permit me to be separated from you.
- Amen.

**Weekly Collections**

**Week of June 28, 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Budget</td>
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<tr>
<td>On-Line Giving</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capital Improvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poor Box</td>
<td>$63.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Votive Candles</td>
<td>$51.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**

An email was recently sent to all Faith Formation families regarding the upcoming Faith Formation Year and the Sacraments of First Penance and Reconciliation and First Holy Communion for those children who were in Grade 2 this past year.

Kindly reply to the survey in the email so that we can determine the number of print/digital resources that we need to order for the upcoming year.

Registration forms for the 2020-2021 Faith Formation year were mailed this week.

Please contact Paul Adam with any questions or concerns regarding the Sacraments of First Penance and Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and/or the upcoming year.

Paul can be reached at: stjamesfaithformation@yahoo.com

**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 together as a group and begin a time of prayer with the sign of the cross.

Never permit me to be separated from you.

Amen.
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.

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.