

**PLAN FOR REOPENING LITTLE FLOWER CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE RESUMING THE
CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY MASSES AND THE OTHER SACRAMENTS
(subject to change due to state or local mandates)**

ASSUMPTIONS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

1. THOSE WHO ARE SYMPTOMATIC OR HAVE TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 SHOULD ALWAYS REMAIN HOME UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN FEVER FREE FOR 72 HOURS (WITHOUT THE USE OF MEDICATION), SYMPTOMS HAVE SUBSIDED, AND 10 DAYS HAVE PASSED SINCE THEIR FIRST SYMPTOMS. THOSE WHO HAVE HAD A TEST TO DETERMINE IF THEY ARE STILL CONTAGIOUS SHOULD REMAIN HOME UNTIL THEY HAVE BEEN FEVER FREE FOR 72 HOURS (WITHOUT THE USE OF MEDICATION), SYMPTOMS HAVE SUBSIDED, AND HAVE HAD TWO NEGATIVE TESTS IN A ROW, AT LEAST 24 HOURS APART.
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fever
 - Chills
 - Muscle pain
 - Sore throat
 - New loss of taste or smell

2. THOSE WHO ARE 65 AND OVER AND THOSE WITH HIGH-RISK HEALTH CONDITIONS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO REMAIN AT HOME. HIGH RISK HEALTH CONDITIONS INCLUDE:
 - People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
 - People who have serious heart conditions
 - People who are immunocompromised
 - Many conditions can cause a person to be immunocompromised, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications
 - People with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher)
 - People with diabetes
 - People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
 - People with liver disease

3. SIGNAGE WILL BE UTILIZED TO COMMUNICATE UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS PEOPLE SHOULD NOT ENTER THE CHURCH.

4. THROUGHOUT THESE GUIDELINES PRIMARY CONSIDERATION NEEDS TO BE GIVEN TO THE HEALTH OF EACH PERSON, ESPECIALLY OUR PRIESTS, MANY OF WHOM ARE OVER 65. THIS WILL REQUIRE EACH PERSON TO ADHERE TO THESE GUIDELINES.

5. LIVESTREAMING OF THE 9:30 A.M. SUNDAY MASS WILL CONTINUE AT LEAST THROUGH AUGUST 14TH.

6. SOCIAL DISTANCING IS TO BE PRACTICED AT ALL TIMES. THIS REQUIRES 6 FT. BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS OF DIFFERENT HOUSEHOLDS.
7. **ALL WHO ARE ATTENDING FOR LITURGY, PRIVATE PRAYER, OR ANY OTHER FUNCTION ARE ASKED TO PROVIDE AND WEAR THEIR OWN FACE COVERING. FACE COVERINGS ARE MANDATORY AT PUBLIC GATHERINGS IN HOUSES OF WORSHIP PER THE MARION COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**
8. **ALL WHO ARE ATTENDING FOR LITURGY, PRIVATE PRAYER, OR ANY OTHER FUNCTION ARE ASKED TO, WHEN POSSIBLE, CARRY HAND SANITIZER FOR THEIR OWN FREQUENT USE.**
9. ALL HYMNALS AND OTHER BOOKS AND ANY TOYS IN THE CRY ROOM WILL BE REMOVED FROM CHURCH.
10. **THOSE CONCERNED WITH RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION ARE NOT OBLIGATED TO DO SO.** THEY MAY CONTINUE TO PRAY THE PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION WHICH WILL STILL BE INCLUDED FOR THOSE WHO ARE WATCHING THE LIVE STREAM. THOSE WHO ARE NOT RECEIVING COMMUNION SHOULD NOT COME FORWARD FOR A BLESSING. WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION IN THE HAND TO MINIMIZE RISK OF VIRUS TRANSMISSION AND KEEP EVERYONE AS SAFE AS POSSIBLE.
11. HOLY COMMUNION FROM THE CHALICE FOR THE FAITHFUL IS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.
12. WE WILL FOLLOW STATE GUIDELINES FOR CONTACT TRACING IF A PERSON WHO IS A CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASE HAS BEEN IN OUR CHURCH.
13. THERE WILL BE NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY OR COFFEE AND DONUTS UNTIL AT LEAST AUGUST 14TH.
14. THE PARISH CENTER WILL REOPEN ON JUNE 8TH. GUIDELINES ARE CURRENTLY BEING DEVELOPED FOR MEETINGS IN THE PARISH CENTER, BUT VIRTUAL MEETINGS WILL STILL BE ENCOURAGED IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.
15. WE DO NOT YET HAVE A DATE FOR FIRST COMMUNION OR THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION FOR THOSE WHO WOULD HAVE RECEIVED THEM AT THE EASTER VIGIL.
16. THESE ASSUMPTIONS SHOULD BE WIDELY DISTRIBUTED BY MAY 17TH AND RE-DISTRIBUTED AS APPROPRIATE AS WE ENTER LATER PHASES.
17. **PLEASE NOTE. PHASE 3 INCLUDING THE RESUMPTION OF WEEKEND MASSES IS NOW SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 6TH/7TH. AS WE GET CLOSER TO THE RESUMPTION OF WEEKEND MASSES, FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT PHASE 3 WILL BE ADDED TO THIS DOCUMENT AND DISTRIBUTED.**

PHASE 2 - Parishioners will be able to attend weekday Masses beginning on Tuesday, May 19.
Please note the times of Masses in *The Theresean*.

- The Sacrament of Reconciliation will still be available by appointment only. Please call Fr. Bob at 317-357-8352, ext. 101.
- Mass attendance limitations will be set by state or county officials. The limit is 50% of capacity so long as social distancing is maintained.
- Funerals within Mass may resume, within limitations set by state and county officials. The limit is 50% of capacity so long as social distancing is maintained.
- Baptisms may resume, subject to the same maximum attendance numbers.
- Anointing of the sick for those not in imminent danger of death may resume.
- Seating will be limited to one section of the church that is not blocked. Only every other pew will be utilized. Also required is 6 ft. between individuals or families of different households.
- As noted previously, face coverings are MANDATORY. Clergy and those assisting clergy are not required to wear masks, but they may choose to do so. However, they must maintain social distance.
- Holy Water fonts will remain empty.
- There will be no physical contact during the Sign of Peace.
- Special protocols for Holy Communion:
 - The person responsible for the preparation of Eucharistic elements prior to Mass must wear a mask and non-latex gloves. Once prepared they should be placed on the credence table or other space and covered until needed.
 - All vessels should be washed/sanitized after each use.
 - Ministers of Communion are required to wear face masks at all times.
 - There should be at least six feet between communicants in procession to and from the minister. Aisles will be marked with tape to indicate the necessary distance.
 - Holy Communion in the hand is highly encouraged during this time.
 - While distributing the hosts, the minister's declaration of "The Body of Christ" should be said softly, as should the communicant's "Amen" response.
 - The faithful who receive Communion should leave their mask in place, sanitize their hands before receiving, receive the Body of Christ from the minister, step to the side and consume the host by lowering or raising their mask, replace their mask, and sanitize their hands after receiving. People are encouraged to bring their own bottles of hand sanitizer to use.
 - Any person-to-person contact must be completely avoided. Hosts could be lightly and carefully dropped in well-cupped hands. If the minister makes physical contact with the communicant or to give Communion on the tongue, they should stop distribution immediately and sanitize their hands

PHASE 3 - Our regular Sunday Mass schedule will resume on Saturday, June 6th, and Sunday, June 7th.

- The Sacrament of Reconciliation will resume its regular schedule of 3:45 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. beginning on June 6th.
 - Fr. Bob will personally admit you to the room and open the door when you leave to minimize contact with door handles.
- Please review the bullet points under Phase 2, particularly for the reception of communion.
- Disposable one-use worship aids will be used. They will be available for you to pick up as you enter the church.
- All sections of the church will be available, but only every other pew. The limit is 50% of capacity so long as social distancing is maintained.
- Again, social distancing is to be practiced at all times, with 6 ft. required between individuals from different households.
- We do not anticipate reaching capacity initially in our re-opening phase. If capacity becomes an issue, we may consider ticketing or live streaming in the cafeteria.
- The opening procession will include the presider only and will begin in the sacristy.
 - Lector and Eucharistic Ministers should be seated in their places before Mass begins.
- During this initial phase, if you do not feel comfortable singing, please feel free to not sing. Some of the singing normally done during Mass may be eliminated. Regardless, please leave your mask on at all times.
- There will be no offertory procession.
- We will not utilize servers at least through June.
- Cleaning will take place after each weekend Mass.
- Music ministry will be limited to no more than two people, at least 6 ft. apart. Currently the use of choirs is prohibited.
- The recessional procession will include the presider only and will be straight to the sacristy.
- The collection will be taken at each of the doors as people leave church.
- The process for dismissal will be announced at the end of Mass. This will require people to leave beginning at the back of each section and allowing social distance as they are leaving the building.
- There should be no gatherings in church after Mass or in the parking lot following Mass.