

St. Perpetua Catholic Church

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May 18, 2020

Dear St. Perpetua Parishioners,

GOD IS IN CHARGE! We write this letter with those words in mind. **GOD IS IN CHARGE!**

At this time we are required to comply with the Archdiocesan detailed guidelines for a safe return to Mass. Dispensation for Sunday Mass is available to ALL Catholics. This is in effect per Archbishop Vigneron through September 6, 2020. We **STRONGLY** encourage all people who have compromised health situations, to refrain from attending Mass until they have recovered or the dispensation is lifted.

We are targeting Pentecost, Saturday May 30th and Sunday May 31st, for resumption of Sunday Mass. Saturday Mass will be at 5:00 p.m. and we will offer one Mass on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. All commentators and lectures should be in the church one half hour prior to the start of Mass.

The following are requirements for attending Mass:

- The Church will open one hour prior to the start of Mass.
- 80 people maximum per Mass
- Masks will be required to be worn by all
- Entrance to the Church will only be through the North entrance
- Designated seating will be marked and strictly enforced.
- Eucharist will only be distributed in the form of the Body of Christ
 - Eucharist will only be distributed in the center aisle. The East side of the Church will receive the Eucharist first, the West side of the Church will receive last.
 - Usher(s) will release row-by-row, maintaining social distancing.
- Eucharistic Ministers are not needed at this time.
- We **STRONGLY ENCOURAGE** reception of the Eucharist in the hand. We will continue to pray for Spiritual Communion for those unable to attend Mass.
- Hymnals are removed from the Church. Music will be limited to the music minister.
- Offertory Gifts, collecting of envelopes, holding of hands at the Our Father and the sign of peace are suspended. A basket for offertory envelopes will be available on the table near the font.
 - If you are unable to attend Mass, but would like to contribute your envelope, you can either mail it to the parish office or you can go online to give.aod.org and designate St. Perpetua to receive your donation.
- Holy Water is prohibited.
- Ushers will dismiss row-by-row at the end of Mass
- We will strive to provide Mass on our website for those who are unable to attend.

It is our hope to have daily Mass in the Main Church twice a week, Tuesdays at 9 a.m. and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. All directives above apply to the daily Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation is suspended at this time.

We would appreciate your patience and understanding during this time. We are ALL in un-chartered territory, in our workplaces, in our homes, in our Churches and in our World. **THINGS ARE DIFFERENT. CHANGE IS DIFFICULT. WITH THE HELP OF GOD, WE WILL GET THROUGH THIS.** Let us hold one another in prayer and remember what Fr. Jack always said, “**GOD HAS NOT DROPPED US YET, HE IS NOT GOING TO DROP US NOW!**”

Fr. Jack, Fr. Jim, Deacon Bob and the whole St Perpetua Staff