



Church of the Holy Cross

30 Ward Avenue
Rumson, New Jersey 07760
Very Rev. Michael Manning, STL

Rev. John McGowan, CSsR, Weekend Assistant
Tom Dooley, Business Administrator
Mrs. Lori LaPlante, Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Sallie Kabash, Coordinator of Religious Education
Jill Ramme, Music Director
Ms. Susan Symington, Sacristan



May 10, 2020

Pray for mothers, living and deceased.

May God give mothers of families strength, perseverance, patience and hope in this time of pain.



Holy Cross Church will be open for private prayer beginning Wednesday, May 13.

Hours and regulations will be posted online.

Live Streaming Mass 9:00 AM weekdays

Sunday Streaming 10:30 AM Mass

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Jesus' early disciples were known as "followers of the way." It likely comes from Jesus' assertion in this week's gospel that He is "the way, the truth and the life." The gospel I most frequently proclaim at Masses of Christian burial contains this consoling phrase of Jesus, Who invites us to follow Him in response to the confused Thomas who confesses he has no idea where Jesus is going.

We know better, but only barely. Many of us would still like more details about the final destination toward which we travel when we follow the Lord.

It might even be helpful if we had a spiritual GPS to alert us when we have headed down the wrong path, or how to find our way when we are lost.

We have such a guide, the Holy Spirit and we should remember that Jesus also has left his very footprints to mark the way.

We celebrate the Paschal Mystery, the sure faith that roads of challenge and difficulty, self-sacrifice, perseverance and courage end in the glory of the Lord's Resurrection - not simply for Jesus, but for us too.



The bishop has allowed churches in the Diocese of Trenton to re-open for private prayer beginning May 13th.

This is such good news both for the faithful who have been deprived of their church for prayer and for pastors who have been the gatekeepers of the harsh closure edict. We'll announce the details before Wednesday.



Online Giving

\$6,858.00

Thank you to our faithful givers!

Directives to be Observed by All Parishes

- Dispensation from Sunday/Holy Day obligation remains in force until further notice
 - Pastors determine whether or not and when they can open their churches safely
 - No public Masses or other group liturgical/devotional celebrations until further notice
 - Sacramental celebrations in church (baptisms, confirmations, ordinary schedule of confessions, weddings) continue to be postponed until further notice
 - Live-streaming of Masses without congregations to continue
 - Churches will be closed for private prayer and empty during live-streamed Masses and will be reopened for private prayer after Mass
 - Faithful from at risk groups as identified by CDC/NJ DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH should remain at home
 - Regular sanitization of churches after use
 - Limited days open for private prayer: at least Monday through Friday
 - Hours for private prayer in open church to be determined by pastor
 - Limited number of visitors at one time (no more than 10) according to NJ state guidelines and social distancing (minimum of 6 feet between visitors) to be observed
 - Areas/pews for seating to be reserved to facilitate cleaning afterward
 - Wearing of masks required for all those making visits

Thank You For Supporting Holy Cross

A sincere thank you to those who are continuing to support Holy Cross Church with online giving or by sending donations through the US mail.

Memorial Masses

Mrs. LaPlante is in contact with families of the recently deceased who call us or about whom we are informed. We will work on scheduling masses of Christian Burial for those families who request it at a future time.

Confirmations and Holy Communion

Mrs. Kabash will work on scheduling Confirmations as soon as we have more details on what kind of gatherings are allowed and the number of

congregants permitted.

Fr. Manning will be conferring the sacrament of Confirmation.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Wedding preparation can still be done online, but details about potential dates and kinds of ceremonies allowed are not available at this time. I

Baptisms

Baptisms will resume as soon as we are able subject to restrictions imposed by civic and church leaders on size of gatherings.

New Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Welcome to our new Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Vincent De Paul Schmidt, who joins our diocese at a unique time in its history. We look forward to working closely with him to keep our school vital and healthy.

Schools Closed Remainder of Year

The governor's office indicated that schools will not re-open this academic year. Updates will follow on Holy Cross Academy's plans to mark the end of the school year.

CDC Guidelines

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Summary of Survey Comments

Thank you to everyone who completed our questionnaire thus far. A few general remarks to address the many comments and suggestions received.

Opening Churches, Resuming Liturgy

There is an important distinction to be made between what the governor directs and what our bishop directs. If our bishop directs me to close the church or discontinue public masses, that is one matter. For the governor to prevent him from doing so is quite another. The first involves respectful obedience to the local ordinary in charge of his diocese, the second is an unprecedented interference by the state in the affairs of the local church.

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Mass Intentions

May 10 Carol Steadman by Tony Gardella
Constance Sullivan by The Lynch Family
Dawn Garavente and Arline Palmieri by Family
Bruno Lijoi and Catarina Roruto by Vittoria Sama
May 13 Mary Westhead by George Westhead
May 16 Bruno Sama by Vittoria Sama
May 17 McDermott and Gialanella Families by The Beekman Family
Louise Lista by Maryjane Gallo
Barbara "BJ" Thompson by Lori and Paul LaPlante

Candles

Mary Ann Gardella
Anthony Lubrano

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The bishop has formed a committee of priests to plan the phased re-opening of parishes and just announced on Friday the availability of churches for private prayer. Having outdoor masses, drive-in masses, inventive ways of distributing the Eucharist or public liturgies in the churches are not allowed. The bishop wants no events which gather groups of any size on church property. Further updates will come from the diocese as we gradually return to normal. Many suggestions are being considered by the bishop for gradual reinstatement of sacramental and parish life. I am sure he welcomes our prayers and ideas.

We cannot assume, however, that government officials have the best interests of religious communities at heart. Civic officials need to be reminded forcefully that our houses of worship should not be shuttered by civic mandate, especially when singled out for more restrictive treatment than other public places where crowds and commerce are being allowed. Since our bishops have so far been following the mandates of the governor, the governor's office is where pleas to give consideration to our churches above movie theatres and sports venues belong.

Outreach

Trying to remain sensitive to the needs of our community and desires of our parishioners to help, we have referred interested parties to parishes with food banks or to community food banks nearby. They accept donations and drop-offs. Blood banks would also appreciate donations. Creative ideas and volunteerism are invited. If you suggest an idea, be willing to do it. We cannot use parish buildings or gather on the property.

Posting streaming schedule

The worship streaming schedule is posted in the bulletin and on my blog and is now on the parish website.

Once we receive some general guidelines for

gradual re-opening, suggestions as to how to implement them in our parish will be welcome. The bishop has indicated that some modifications within the state's parameters, may be allowed at the local level.

Phone call hours

Not all staff members will be working the same day and sometimes off site, so phone calls are still problematic. At this point, there is not a phone schedule; perhaps we can develop one. You may always leave a message. Most issues can be answered by our parish secretary, Eileen George or forwarded to those who can help you. She takes all messages for Fr. Manning. Emails to individual staff members will also be read and answered. The parish office is still closed. There will be more activity when the planning of the First Communions and Confirmations can begin in June. At this point, no dates can be confirmed for any sacraments.

Comments on Liturgy, Streaming

The current microphone seems to be working well, so we'll stick with it for now. It still takes a while to get delivery of cables and some microphones have been temporarily out of stock due to high demand from bloggers, streamers, etc.

I began streaming in the hopes that some parishioners will find it helpful to pray along with me during the mass. If this goes on past the summer, we can explore making the Sunday liturgy more festive.

The breadth and scope of masses available on the web are amazing, from Rome to Rumson. Ours is on DIY equipment with the presider being the technical crew and director. Don't expect the quality of the transmissions or the style of all presidings to be the same. It's a relatively recent demand that priests become media streamers. Find "a channel" which suits you best.

Online or offline, keep praying!