

St John Bosco and Immaculate Conception

216 N Main Street Churubusco, IN 46723

May, 12, 2020

Dear St John Bosco and Immaculate Conception parishioners,

In line to the letter of the Bishop last week lifting the suspension on public Masses in the churches in our diocese, we have been trying to adjust to the directives in order to be able to resume Masses at both churches with minimal discomfort, and being conscious of the well-being of everyone that wishes to attend the Masses each Sunday. Here, we outlined certain points you should keep in mind as we re-open Churches on the Ascension Weekend (May 23/24):

1. Please, we can never lose sight of the fact that the whole COVID-19 situation is the first of its kind for all. It calls us to some measure of patience, understanding, compromise and spirit of accommodation with some decisions as we try out new and various measures in our parishes and Churches to adjust to the global situation as best as we can.
2. The Churches are marked to meet the CDC social distancing policy as directed by the diocese. The seating spaces are now limited as we know, but families will sit together while couples and singles follow the pew marks. It is difficult at this time to know who will be at one Mass or the other, for we have noted from people we reached out to that, while some people want to wait for a few weeks before venturing to Church, some people definitely are not coming since they are 60+ and some people are yet undecided. Also, we are handicapped with regards to contacting every family since we have realized that some people's contact information has changed.
3. We hope to rough it out the first weekend (May 23/24); before we can get the hang on which Mass we might ask people to attend, if need be. The Church basement of St John Bosco has a screen for participating in the Mass, if need be, but we plead that if you arrive and there is no adequate seating for you that allows for the social distancing policy inside the church or at the basement, please consider attending one of the other masses offered.
4. Please, consider filling and returning the information at the end of this letter by postal mail to the Parish Office or e-mail to saintjohn.bosco@gmail.com or be ready at the first weekend Masses (May 23/24), to sign the form stating your preferred Mass, your current mailing address, your email address and active phone number, so that we can update our records at the Parish Office and also be able to reach out to you before the subsequent weekend, to inform you if your preferred time is okay or to give you another option, in accord with the seating spots in the Church. Also, indicate if you want us to include your email address in our Parishes' bulk email list, so that we can then do general email information when there is a need.

5. We already say 5 Masses each weekend and 6 Masses if there is a wedding or funeral Mass on a Saturday or 1st Saturday morning Mass, but due to the situation, we will add one more Mass on Sunday evenings at 5:00pm at Ege. This will last until we can adjust by August 15, 2020.
6. Mass Times: As usual at St John Bosco - 5:00 pm on Sat; 7:00 am and 10:30 am on Sun. At Immaculate Conception – 7:00 pm on Sat; 8:30 am and 5:00 pm on Sun.
7. Worship Aid: As all the Missalettes and Music issues have been removed from the pews, we plan to provide a sheet of worship aid that will contain the readings and the commons of the Mass to assist all in following the liturgy. Fresh copies will be replaced on the seats after the seats have been wiped down following each Mass.
8. Singing: At this time only Instrumental music (e.g., organ, piano, string instruments, etc.) is permitted during Masses and Church liturgies, as the diocesan instructions directs.
9. Communion: Holy Communion can be received only on the species of the bread at this time and as much as possible at this time, try to receive on your hand, and follow the markings on the floor of the Churches.
10. Dismissal: At the end of each Mass, remember not to start rushing out, but to patiently wait for your turn to exist the Church beginning with those sitting at the last pew to the front, before those upstairs can then follow finally. Congregating at the parking lot is not encouraged.
11. Confessions: Confession can be on appointment. Call or email to schedule a time.
12. Events: First Holy Communion for the Children and their families only – At Immaculate Conception: 8:30 am on Sun May 17, 2020. At St John Bosco: 12:30 pm on Sun May 31, 2020.
13. Confirmation: The date is not yet fixed by the Bishop but candidates are encouraged to keep studying the resources that the Catechists and DREs have made available to them.
14. Reception into Full Communion: The date for this ceremony is yet to be set.
15. Rite of Initiation (Baptism): Also, the date for this ceremony is yet to be agreed on.
16. Masks: Remember that it is mandated that masks be worn by everyone attending Masses, except for infants and toddlers, who may have difficulty breathing through masks.
17. Dispensation: Be reminded that if you are sick or have cough or fever, you should not attend Mass at the Church, but view it online. Masses at St John Bosco will be live-streamed during the weekend Masses, as we continue to work to get Ege Church's own installed too. Remember that the dispensation from Sunday obligation is still in place until August 15, 2020.
18. Thanks for your understanding, support and donations in various ways to our parishes, and may God continue to bless and protect you and your families at this time and always. *Fr. Francis*

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR USE BY ST JOHN BOSCO PARISH

Name (Individual or family) _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: _____

Email: _____

To be included in Parish Bulk email: Yes () No ()

Mass Time Preference at this Time: _____

Suggestions (If any): _____

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR USE BY IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Name (Individual or family): _____

Address: _____

Phone No.: _____

Email: _____

To be included in Parish Bulk email: Yes () No ()

Mass Time Preference at this Time: _____

Suggestions (If any): _____
