



St. Mary's Parish Community

Our Lady of the Assumption Church

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www.marybrantford.com

September 27, 2020

'Let us return to the Eucharist with joy.'

Dear Parishioners and Friends!

With the above words Cardinal Sarah, the Prefect of the Vatican Office of the Sacred Liturgy encourages the faithful to return to the pews (August 15th, Letter to the Bishops). It is safe! While attending the church we observe certain **protocols** to ensure everyone's safety. We want all parishioners to feel comfortable. Complying with the rules will make that possible.

We can accommodate seating in a safe manner. The church will be sanitized after each liturgy.

Please, wear your face mask and wash your hands when heading to church. Hand sanitizers are also available at the entrance. If you have travelled in recent days, have symptoms (temperature) or are not feeling well, please stay at home. Once seated we are asking you to remain in the pew, until Holy Communion and the end of the Holy Mass. Using the washroom is advised only in an emergency.

All weekend Holy Masses will begin at the usual time, Saturday **5:00 pm**, Sunday **9:00 am** and **11:00 am**. The church opens a half hour before Holy Mass begins. There is a temporary early morning Holy Mass on Sunday at **7:30 am** for those who would like to avoid "the crowds".

There is only **one way into the church**, through the main door. The bell tower door will be an **exit door only**. First come - first seated rule is to be applied, however depending on attendance a reservation system may be introduced.

On entering the church, you will be guided down the main aisle to the **first marked and available seat** beginning from the front of the church (altar). **Same household members** can sit together. Please follow **announcements** during Holy Mass. Holy Water stoups, narthex area, Madonna Chapel, Padre Pio statue, votive candles stand, Monsignor Maloney Room and choir loft are excluded from use. Also, all liturgy aids like hymn books, and response sheets are removed. The **Sunday offering envelope** may be dropped into the basket on entering the church.

Holy Communion will be distributed in the hand only! We will begin joining the communion line in the main aisle from the first pews, observing distancing, using the floor signs. After receiving Holy Communion return to your pew using the side aisles. There will be a moment of guided thanksgiving prayer observed after the final blessing. Everyone needs to leave the church then through the bell tower door, beginning with the first pews. You will be guided by the volunteer. There will be no handouts such as bulletins available. Holy Mass intentions and other essential updates will be announced and posted on our website: www.marybrantford.com.

Daily Holy Mass is celebrated at the usual hours. Tuesday at 7:00 pm, Thursday and Friday at 9:00 am. Wednesday Holy Mass is celebrated at Saint Joseph LifeCare Centre restricted to the residents only. Church doors open a half hour before Holy Mass. Enter through the main door and exit through the bell tower door. The narthex side door is unavailable. Please take only seats that are designated and marked, always wear the face covering, observe distancing rules while sitting and walking. The usual devotions on Tuesday and Friday resume. Holy Communion is distributed in the hand only.

Sacrament of Penance is celebrated on **Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. and Saturday at 4:00 pm. – 4:45 pm.** in the Msgr. Maloney Room. Enter through the bell tower door and wait for your turn in the designated seats. Leave through the same door unless you are staying for the Holy Mass, then you can enter the church directly and take the first available seat. **There are no confessions on Friday.**

The ministries are limited to the minimum, except the volunteers needed during Holy Mass. Please let us know if you can help. Sign up for one of the Sunday Holy Masses. You can call 519-753-7316 or email the office at marybrantford@gmail.com. We will resume ministries gradually when it will be permitted. Visits to the sick at homes and Saint Joe's are still suspended.

The Holy Mass might be cancelled when the priest is not feeling well or is showing symptoms. The related information will be published on the website. Special liturgy will be celebrated for those who attend.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone for respecting the safety regulations that make attending our church welcoming and safe.

Thank you for your patience and understanding!

See you in the church!

Fr. Luke
Your Pastor