

*Saints Mary and Joseph Parish, Salem, New Hampshire*

## ***The Celebration of Mass has Resumed***

*Dear Friends in Christ,*

As you know, public health officials in New Hampshire have modified restrictions on churches and houses of worship. With the approval of Bishop Libasci, we have resumed the celebration of Mass at Saints Mary and Joseph Parish.

We want to make the resumption of the Eucharist as safe as possible for everyone under these unusual and difficult circumstances. The protocols we have put in place follow the guidelines provided by the state and the diocese. The emphasis is on **safety, social distancing** and **sanitization**.

Public Mass shall continue to be celebrated at our usual Mass times:

**Saturday at 4:00 PM** at Mary Queen of Peace Church

**at 5:00 PM** at St. Joseph Church

**Sunday at 7:30 AM** at St. Joseph Church

**9:30 AM** at Mary Queen of Peace Church

**10:00 AM** at St. Joseph Church

**11:00 AM** at Mary Queen of Peace Church

YOU DO NOT NEED TO CALL-IN to reserve a space for Mass. Seating will be "first come-first seated" until all available spaces are filled. Every attempt will be made to seat everyone safely.

To provide as safe and clean an environment as possible, we ask those coming to Mass to observe the following:

- Parishioners must wear masks from the moment they leave their car until they return. Masks will be provided for those without.
- Ushers will accompany worshipers to one of the places marked in the church. To avoid contact with others, seating will begin at the front of the church and continue to the back.
- Hymnals have been removed from the churches. A cantor will lead the acclamations, but there will be no community singing.
- **Communion will again be distributed during the Mass**. Please follow the directions of the Ushers.
- The church will be sanitized immediately after all Masses



We are committed to following these protocols for the safety of our parish community, our liturgical ministers and our clergy. ***To this end, parishioners who are not able or unwilling to follow these guidelines will be asked by ushers to leave.***

*[According to the bishop's directives, the faithful may receive the Eucharist either in the hand or on the tongue, and that preference will be honored. After placing the host on a recipient's tongue, the minister will stop to wash and sanitize his/her hands before continuing. For the sake of the health and safety of the minister, as well as the time required to sanitize, we ask those who usually receive on the tongue to strongly consider receiving Communion in the hand during the pandemic.]*

For those who are unable to return to Mass, we will continue the "livestream" ALL Weekend and Daily Masses from Mary Queen of Peace.

**Daily Mass** is celebrated at both Mary Queen of Peace and Saint Joseph: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at **7:15 a.m. at Saint Joseph** and **9 a.m. at MQP** (*Mass is NOT celebrated at either church on Fridays*).