

## **OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL REOPENING GUIDELINES**

Our Lady of Good Counsel is preparing to resume weekend masses. We are required to follow guidelines from the diocese in addition to those from the state in order to keep everyone safe and healthy.

When we do open all masses will be held in the church hall until further notice. This will make it much easier and less burdensome to practice social distancing and sanitizing the building.

The bishop has continued the dispensation for mass attendance until further notice. So if you are not feeling well, have an underlying illness, are in a high risk population or just feel that it is not safe for you to attend mass, PLEASE stay home. You are excused from the obligation to attend in person.

We are limited to 30% of the building capacity so that would mean approximately 80 people in the hall at a mass. This is approximately what our average attendance at mass is anyway.

The weekend schedule will remain at 5:00 on Saturday evening and 10:30 on Sunday morning. This may change if there is a consistent low attendance at one of the masses.

We must practice social distancing (6 feet apart unless it is a family group).

Everyone entering must wear a mask.

Hands must be sanitized when entering and leaving. It is preferred that everyone bring their own hand sanitizer since we may have difficulty getting large amounts of hand sanitizer.

Everything in the building must be sanitized before and after mass.

We ask that people do not congregate outside before or after mass as we still need to do social distancing.

There will be no music or singing.

The sign of peace will not be done until further notice.

Communion will not be given on the tongue. Please cup your hands to receive the host. Eucharistic ministers will sanitize their hands before and after distributing communion. There will be no cup available to receive from.

The offertory will not be taken during mass. There will be baskets by the entrance for you to deposit your donations on the way in or way out.

Because only one person would be allowed in the bathroom at a time and it must be sanitized after each use the bathrooms will not be opened unless it is an emergency.

Once everything we need to do is in place we will resume weekend masses, probably in June.

Thank you for your patience and support,

Father Lonek and the parish council