St. Mary’s Village Church

3827 N Arms Pl. PO Box 155

St. Mary of the Woods, IN 47876

May 12, 2020

It has been a long time since we have been able to celebrate together as a faith community. I pray that all of you are weathering this storm and staying safe. As we look forward to coming together again, we need to keep in mind our safety and the safety of others in our community.

The good news is that public Mass will resume on Sunday, May 31st at our regular time.

HOWEVER, there will be several restrictions.

1. **THOSE WHO ARE 65 AND OLDER AND THOSE WITH HIGH-RISK HEALTH CONDITIONS** **SHOULD REMAIN AT HOME.** This is the population that is most vulnerable to the coronavirus. Of course, those who are symptomatic or have tested positive for COVID-19 should not enter a church until released to do so by their health care professional. Because of this, the dispensation from the obligation to participate at Mass on Sundays is extended in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis until August 15, 2020.
2. All adults who come to church will be required to wear masks or face coverings. It is doubtful that we will be able to purchase masks, so you will need to supply them yourselves. Masks can be taken off for communion.
3. Hand sanitizer will be available for use when you enter church.
4. Missals will not be available for use.
5. All liturgical ministries will be suspended, except for the lector. If you are a lector and feel you can continue this role as we proceed forward, please let me know.
6. The collection basket will be placed at the entrance to the church, for you to place your envelope as you enter or exit. Thank you to those who have faithfully mailed in your envelopes and continue to do so.
7. Please adhere to social distancing when finding your pew. Each household should sit 6 feet away from another household. (For example, alternating pews)

Please check the parish website and Facebook group for additional updates. Also, thank you for your patience as details and adjustments are made during this unusual time.

Blessings,

Jamie Richey, Coordinator of Religious Education

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