

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS



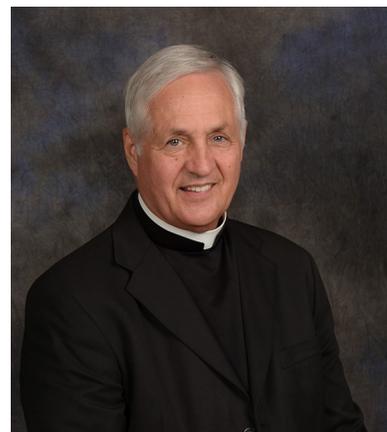
St. Lawrence Catholic Church

May 2020

from the Pastor...

On May 8, Bishop Doherty released a decree and instructions for returning to public worship. Since that time, members of the parish staff have been working to develop a plan for reopening our doors to celebrate the Eucharist together.

Following the decree, this reopening plan will be implemented in phases as outlined below. Beginning the weekend of May 30/31, we will begin *Phase B* which focuses on *SUNDAY MASS*.



PLEASE REVIEW THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY AND REMAIN FLEXIBLE AND PATIENT AS WE TRANSITION FROM QUARANTINE TO ACTIVE PARISH LIFE!

Some general notes for Phase B:

- **All persons planning to attend Mass are asked to RSVP online or via phone. Please see page 3 for more information.**
- Mass, Night Prayer, etc. will continue to be livestreamed. Beginning May 31, Sunday Mass will livestream at 8:00 AM.
- The church and parish buildings will continue to be closed during the week.
- Parish Staff will continue to work remotely or on site as needed.
- Regular Saturday Confession will resume June 6 from 2:30-3:30 PM. You may schedule private appointments after that date.

While there are numerous volunteers to thank over the past few weeks, I am most grateful to Footprints for continuing to supply masks for the parish and greater Muncie community,

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Parish Office,

God Bless,

Fr. Dave



Sacraments

Beginning May 30/31, our regular weekend Mass schedule will resume:

- Saturday 4:30 PM
- Sunday 8:00 AM  **LIVESTREAM**
- 10:00 AM
- 12:15 PM (Spanish)  **LIVESTREAM**



- Livestream Masses will continue to be offered on Facebook and the parish website <http://stlawrencemuncie.com>. The Mass may be viewed anytime during the day after that time.
- **Weekday Mass** will continue to be livestreamed each morning at 8:00 AM. **In person weekday Mass is not expected to resume until Phase D in July.**
- The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** will resume Saturday, June 6 from 2:30-3:30 PM. (Please note the time change.)
- First Communion, Confirmation, and RCIA will be scheduled during or after Phase C.

Reopening Guidelines: Phase B

Bishop Doherty has extended the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days until August 15, 2020. As a result, no one should return to Mass if they are not comfortable doing so.

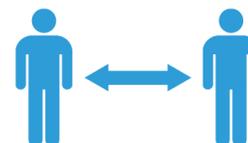
YOU SHOULD STAY HOME if you are an individual 65 and over, if you are symptomatic, have tested positive for COVID19, or been in contact with someone who has tested positive, as well as those of any age in high risk categories. Per the CDC, "at-risk" health conditions include but are not limited to: high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, severe obesity, asthma, those whose immune system is compromised such as by chemotherapy for cancer and other conditions requiring such therapy.

Diocesan Timeline and Decree

Phase A	Phase B	Phase C	Phase D
March 13	May 30	Mid-June	Early July
COVID Norms: No Chalice No Sign of Peace Holy Water Fonts empty	COVID Norms in place SUNDAY MASS ONLY masks required no music Communion after Mass OFFICE by appointment Funerals outside of Mass Sunday obligation dispensed Confession (June 6)	COVID Norms in place SUNDAY MASS masks optional music optional Communion during Mass Funeral Mass permitted Sunday obligation dispensed	COVID Norms in place Sunday AND Daily Mass

To help maintain social distancing, the following procedures will be in place:

- Entrance into the church will be limited to the ramp (west) entrance.
- To ensure time for cleaning and social distancing, **the ramp door will be opened 15 minutes prior to the scheduled Mass time.**
- Seating will be every-other pew.
- Members of the same household may sit together.
- Each Mass will be limited to approximately 90 people.



How will Mass look when we return?

Mass will continue to include changes from Phase A (March 13) as well as additional measures to insure the safety of all present.

- **All attendees will be required to wear a mask during Mass.**



- **Masks, hand sanitizer,** and Mass prayer sheets **will be available** at the door. If you take a reusable face mask, please bring it with you on future weekends.
- Masks are not required for children 2 and under.
- Holy Water fonts will remain empty.
- The church will be cleaned after each Mass.
- The Sign of Peace will continue to be omitted.
- Communion from the Chalice remains suspended.
- There is to be no social gathering before or after Mass, inside or outside.
- The Ushers will not take up a collection. (Baskets will be placed near the doors of the church.)
- The Gifts will not be carried forward.
- There will not be singing at Mass.
- There will be no Missalettes/Hymnals available. Disposable worship aids will be available with the Mass texts and readings. Please recycle after Mass.
- The HVAC system will be placed in the off position. Windows will be open for fresh air.
- **Holy Communion will be distributed after Mass.** Please remember to keep adequate social distance in the Communion line.
- Father will be behind a plexi-glass screen for distribution.
- After receiving Holy Communion, attendees will exit the east side.

Mass RSVP

Due to social distancing guidelines and state mandates in place, all those wishing to attend Mass are asked to RSVP by registering at <https://stlawrencemuncie.com/mass-reopening> OR by calling [254-1635](tel:254-1635). Calls will be answered from 7:30—11 AM, Tuesday—Friday. Reservations will be accepted beginning Tuesday, May 26. In order to accommodate as many parishioners as possible, please limit your attendance to one Mass per weekend.

COME, HOLY SPIRIT

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

V. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

R. And you shall renew the face of the earth.

Let us pray.

O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant us in the same Spirit to be truly wise and ever to rejoice in His consolation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

GIVING TO ST. LAWRENCE

We depend on the generous gifts of our parishioners for church operations including expenses we will continue to have during this time such as payroll, utilities, maintenance, and charitable giving in our community.

If you are able, please consider making your weekly gift online at <https://stlawrencemuncie.com/online-giving>

or mail your donation to:

St. Lawrence Church
820 E. Charles St.
Muncie, IN 47305

ST. LAWRENCE STAFF

Members of the parish staff are available to help support your needs during this time. Although most of the staff is working remotely, we continue to check email and voicemail messages throughout the day. If you are in need of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at 288-9223 or via email.



St. Lawrence Catholic Church

820 E. Charles St

Muncie, IN 47305

765-288-9223

www.stlawrencemuncie.com

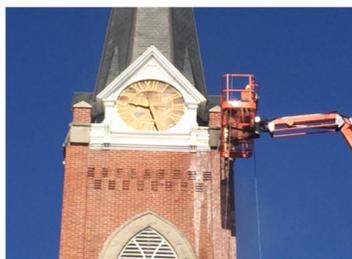
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Highlights



ABOVE• Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, the east side of the church as well as the bell-tower are undergoing tuck-pointing and other work to protect and preserve our beautiful structure.



BOTTOM LEFT• Volunteers recently cleaned the landscaping around the grotto and planted new flowers.



FAR RIGHT• Members of the Parish Staff, Parish Council, and Finance Council continue to meet each Wednesday evening to discuss the latest news and happenings around the parish.