Dear Parishioner:

We are very pleased to begin offering public Masses once again at Our Lady of Lourdes!  As we anticipate our first Mass, we ask you to consider the following for the health and safety of yourself and all of the parishioners who will join us in worship:

First, if you are in the high-risk category by age, or with underlying health conditions, you are strongly encouraged ***not*** to attend Mass just yet.  The dispensation that currently exists for not attending Sunday Mass is still in effect, and will remain so despite our ability to begin the public celebration of Mass.  Also, we will continue to record the weekend Mass and make it available to you online.

At this time, we are only allowed to gather 50 or fewer at Mass. For the sake of fairness to all who wish to attend, we will be asking parishioners to sign up in advance, thereby making a reservation to attend Mass.  Our reservation system will allow you to sign up online or by calling the parish office (360-695-1366) if that is your preference.

We will begin with one Mass each weekend, starting Sunday, June 21st at 9 a.m.  Additional daily and weekend Masses will be added once we gain a clearer understanding of the number of parishioners who wish to gather during this pandemic. We recognize that under the current restrictions it may take a number of weeks for ALL those who wish to participate to be able to attend a Mass, therefore, we are asking that you not sign up more than once every two weeks until further notice.  We appreciate your patience and understanding while we work through this together.

As you can imagine, Mass will be quite different for the time being, and for the foreseeable future.  For one, and just to name a few, face coverings will be required to attend and proper social distancing of 6 feet must take place from the moment you arrive into the Our Lady of Lourdes parking lot until you leave again. Mass will be no more than 30 minutes to decrease exposure risk and there can be no congregational singing. On our website, you will find a “Welcome Back to Mass” video that Fr. Woody has prepared detailing many of the current changes to Mass.

If, after considering all of this information, you decide to make a reservation and join us for the celebration of Mass, we ask you to observe the following:

* Before leaving home, and AGAIN when you arrive on campus, you will be asked to self screen, asking yourself the following questions:

1. Have I traveled outside of the country in the past 14-days?
2. Have I been exposed to a person with suspected or confirmed Covid-19?
3. Do I have a temperature of 100.4 or higher?
4. Do I have new or increased shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?
5. Do I have a new cough?
6. Do I have any two of the following symptoms:  Chills, Muscle Pain, Headache, Sore Throat or new loss of taste or smell?

**If you answer “yes” to even one of the above questions, you are asked to stay at home.**

* 6 Feet of social distancing is required at all times on campus, including the parking lot.  We will have tape indicators to help you in the hallway leading into the Church.
* Everyone (except small children) will be required to wear a face mask. If you do not have your own personal mask, one will be provided for you.
* Plan to arrive 20 minutes early, as you will be required to sign in at the desk in the hallway before entering into the Church.  Your reservation will be confirmed and your contact information will be kept for 14-days in the event you need to be contacted due to a Covid-19 exposure.
* If you have made a reservation, but are unable to attend Mass due to illness or otherwise, please let us know ahead of time, if possible, thereby allowing another to fill the space.
* You will be required to sanitize your hands before entering into the Church.  Hand sanitizer will be provided.

On behalf of the parish, and all the staff, thank you for all of the support and prayers you have offered for us and each other during this time.  We have appreciated all of the positive feedback on our recorded Masses and have missed praying together with you so very much.  Stay safe and well, and we look forward to the time when we can ALL gather together in worship of the Lord.

The Parish Staff