

WHAT TO EXPECT AS WE RETURN TO MASS

St. Michael's Church

We are excited to celebrate public Mass with our Parish Family again! To safely accommodate as many parishioners as possible, we are offering limited seating for Mass in our church. Our capacity is very limited at this time, so we will be using a “reservation” system which can be found on our website. Once the capacity is filled, we ask you to try again for the next available Mass. We are allowing households to attend Mass together, and they may sit together if they choose but ask that you take care of keeping the social distancing protocol from others.

- Bishop Tobin has extended the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass. We will continue to stream the Mass on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on our parish YouTube Page which can be found on our parish website; www.stmichaelsmithfield.org
- It is not required that you receive Holy Communion if you attend Mass; you may remain in your seat.
- Masks/Face Coverings are to be worn at all times in the church and should completely cover mouth and nose.
- Please observe social distancing of 6 feet of other parishioners at all times.
- Ushers will greet you at the **front door only**; give them your name and an **Ushers will bring you to an available seat, beginning from the front of the church, and working toward the back. This may not be the pew that you would typically sit at, but we ask that you be patient with this process**, if a line forms outside, again, please adhere to social distancing.
- Each pew will have a Cross, marking each available seat.
- Use of Rest Rooms will not be allowed at this time (emergency's only)
- Ushers will guide us into Communion Lines (which will be very different from what we are used to) please follow their directions at all times.
- When Mass has concluded, and the ministers have proceeded out of the Sanctuary, **the Ushers will begin to direct us on exiting the church, pew by pew** starting from the back of the church and moving forward to the front of the church (closest to the Altar)

Again, this will take some time, so again we ask for your understanding so that we can keep everyone as safe as possible.

- Plan to arrive early to church; the entering procedure will be slower than what we are accustomed to, and again if a line begins to form, please take notice of the social distancing markers.
- **IF ANYONE FEELS UNWELL AT ALL, WITH ANY KIND OF SYMPTOM, PLEASE STAY HOME.**
- There will be no offertory collection during Mass, no offertory procession, and no exchanging the sign of peace. You may deposit your budget offering at the front door when you arrive.
- Instructions will be given before Mass begins on receiving Holy Communion.
- Our Parish Hall will remain closed for now. The only entrance into the church is through the **Front Main Door**.
- Please do not congregate outside the church or parking lot at this time.
- After everyone has exited the church, all surfaces will be sanitized.

**TO MAKE YOUR RESERVE YOUR SEAT, PLEASE
CLICK THE LINK ON OUR HOME PAGE.**



If you have any questions about these instructions or about signing up to attend, please send an email to: stmikesgeo@gmail.com

These procedures were made after much consideration of options. They will be reviewed regularly and adjusted to best serve the spiritual and safe health needs of our parish community.