

## **Saint Andrew Catholic Church Reopening!**

**It is with great joy and thanksgiving to God that I am able to announce that our Church will once again be able to be open, and Holy Mass, and the Sacraments will be offered. Before proceeding to the specific Directives, I would like to state some important facts:**

- 1) The Sunday Obligation to attend Mass is suspended until further notice by Bishop Gainer. This means that there is NO penalty of Mortal Sin if you do not attend Mass on Sunday. Since there is no Sunday Obligation, you may consider attending a Daily Mass instead of Sunday as a way to be able to be at Mass, and receive Holy Communion with fewer people than may be at a weekend Mass.**
- 2) If you are in a compromised state of health due to age, existing serious medical conditions, or are sick in any way, please remain at home, and watch Mass via live streaming, or, on TV.**

Sunday Masses begin June 6 – 7 in the School Hall

Vigil Mass: Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday Mass: 9:00am

Capacity Limited to 50 – 60

Confessions: Sat. 3:30 - 4:30 PM in the Patio Area (weather permitting)

Daily Mass begins June 8, Monday through Saturday, 8:00am in the Church

Capacity Limited to 50 – 60

Handicap Side Door to the Church will be open from 7:00am – 1:00pm for Mass and private prayer.

The following directives for a safe reopening will be observed in accordance with the State directives and the Office of the Bishop.

<b>Churches</b>	<b>Yellow Phase</b>
1. Hours of Operation	The Church will be open with restricted hours: Monday through Saturday, 7:00am – 1:00pm for daily Mass beginning at 8:00am, and private prayer. Sunday Masses will be held in the school hall: Vigil Mass on Saturday at 5:00pm; Sunday Mass at 9:00am. See Confession schedule above.
2. Entrances	In order to maintain as sanitary conditions as possible, entrance to the Church and school hall will be limited to the handicap entrances.
3. Doors	The exterior door to the Church and school hall will be propped open, whenever possible to prevent unneeded contact and allow for greater ventilation.

4. Space Delineation and Pews	Within the Church, ropes will be used to create restricted space for those entering for private prayer and daily Mass. Six feet is the standard for spacing between individuals/families. The entire Church may not be accessible to help reduce the areas needing to be sanitized.
5. Sanitization Requirements	Sanitization is to occur after each gathering for Mass. Wooden pews will be sanitized with a UV light wand. Door handles and railings will be sanitized with disinfectant wipes and sprays.
6. Occupancy	In order to provide proper social distancing, fewer than 1/3 of total church occupancy may occupy the Church at any given time. Religious spaces are not held to the minimum number for gatherings established for businesses.
7. Ventilation	The Church and school hall are to be well ventilated with fresh air. Windows and doors are to be opened, whenever possible, unless using HVAC and fans, thus allowing air to be circulated.
8. Holy Water	All fonts will remain empty. Small bottles of Holy Water may be provided to individuals to take with them upon request.
9. Hymnals and Missalettes	All hymnals and missalettes will be removed from the Church and stored until a later date. For public worship, printed worship aids will be provided for Sunday liturgies and are to be discarded by the user in designated receptacles as they leave the school hall.
10. Book Racks	The book rack in the vestibule of the Church has been emptied until further notice.
11. Votive Candles	Access to lighting votive candles is restricted from the public. Parishioners may request the parish staff to light a candle for them.
12. Sacristy	Only clergy and sacristans will have access to the sacristy.
<b>Persons in Attendance</b>	
1. Face Masks (Clergy)	Faces masks are not to be worn by clergy during the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy; only during the distribution of Holy Communion, and after Mass, and outside of Mass.
2. Face Masks (Laity)	Face masks are to be worn by all lay faithful who attend Mass. The only time face masks are to be removed is when a lector proclaims the readings and for the reception of Holy Communion.
3. Gloves	Gloves are not to be worn during the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy.
4. Sanitizer Stations	Stations with hand sanitizers will be in place at

	the entrance to the church and ushers will dispense sanitizer upon entrance to the school hall. Sanitizer will be available in the sacristy, at the credence table, and at the location for Holy Communion.
5. Social Distancing	Social distancing will be practiced within the Church and school hall. Using rope or tape, indications will be made for sitting in every other pew in the church. Individual chairs will be aligned six feet apart in the school hall.
6. Gathering before/after Mass	All formal or informal gatherings before or after Mass are strictly prohibited in the Church and at the entrances. This means please leave quietly after making a proper thanksgiving after Mass.
7. Deacons	Deacons may serve at the discretion of the pastor and the deacon.
8. Altar Servers	Only adult altar servers will be allowed to serve at this time.
9. Lectors	A single lector is permitted.
10. Choirs	Choirs are not permitted at this time.
11. Organist	A musician and a cantor are permitted.
12. Ushers	A limited number of ushers (2) to help direct the assembly as they enter and leave is necessary at this time.
13. Controlled entrance	Entrance to the Church is determined by the available seating that conforms to social distancing rules in place at this time. For Sunday liturgies, an usher will be in place to allow entrance up to the limit of seating available following those guidelines. This will be limited to a maximum of 60 people per weekend Mass. We appreciate your patience and understanding if you are told we have reached the limit of seating.
<b>Sunday Mass/Weekday Mass</b>	
1. Schedule of Masses	Mass schedules for Sundays and weekdays have been adjusted according to the requirements for sanitation after each Mass. Proper cleaning must take place after each Mass. Masses may take place in churches or in church/school halls that are properly suited to accommodate all the state and diocesan regulations for reopening churches for worship.
2. Offertory collection	Offerings will be taken up by ushers at the Sunday liturgies.
3. Sign of Peace	The sign of peace is to be omitted.
4. Holy Communion during Masses	The faithful in attendance will receive Holy Communion observing all social distancing requirements. For Sunday Masses in the

	School Hall, the pastor will distribute Holy Communion to the faithful individually in their seats using the rows between seats. For daily Mass, the reception of Holy Communion will proceed as usual maintaining social distancing requirements between communicants.
5. Holy Communion outside of Mass	Due to restrictions imposed on the number of faithful who are able to attend in person or those who out of an abundance of caution and who prefer to watch the live-streamed Mass on Facebook, Father Robert will distribute Holy Communion in the parking lot of the Church between 11:00 – 11:30am for those who still wish to receive the Eucharist, with people still maintaining the six foot distance while standing in line.
6. Reception of Holy Communion	Holy Communion may be received in the hand or on the tongue. No one is to be refused Holy Communion for their preference of reception.