

PLANNING FOR A Safe Return

We have received **guidance from the Archdiocesan Office** regarding the easing of restrictions allowed at our Masses and celebrations. These changes can take place starting this weekend; although it may take a little time for each of our churches to be ready. We ask for your patience and understanding while we work through these changes for the health and benefit of all our parishioners.

Some important changes arising from Phase 5 include:

- physical distancing, seating restrictions and gathering limits are lifted
- registration for Mass is no longer required
- taking Communion to the Sick or Homebound can resume

There are also some important reminders:

- masks continue to be mandatory for parishioners at all Masses and events
- hand sanitizing upon entering and exiting church is strongly encouraged
- our churches will continue to have sections with social distancing, for those who wish to continue with that protection
- Communion on the tongue is still not permitted at this time

Proof of vaccination is not required for those who attend our Masses; however, the Archbishop's communique does include a reminder that the Covid vaccines reduce the likelihood of severe illness and that by becoming vaccinated - you reduce the risk of passing on Covid-19 to your family, friends and community.

For those who do not yet feel comfortable returning to Masses in-person, please note:

- the Archbishop continues to provide dispensation from the obligation of participation in the Sunday Mass for those who may not be able to attend for health reasons or due to capacity restrictions
- Mass will continue to be live streamed in some parishes and this practice will carry on for some time during this Phase 5 re-opening period.

We will do our very best to welcome back the parishioners who may not have attended Mass during the past two years.