

Dear Parishioners,

I would like to express my great joy that we will be able to come back to our church for the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharist. The process to reopen the Church will need your patience and understanding. I have prepared a plan to accommodate all the rules that were put in place by Governor Abbott and Cardinal DiNardo that will best serve the community of St. Edith Stein.

When we first open, we will be allowed to use 25% of the full capacity of our church. In our case, we are allowed to open the church for about 230 people. The accommodation of our people for weekday masses will be easier to accomplish, but on Sundays, we have more issues to resolve to open masses. Again, I appeal to you to be patient and cooperative as we put a plan in place to safely bring our people back into our place of worship. Cardinal DiNardo is strongly recommending that we wear masks on Church property and during the masses to ensure the protection and health of all people. You can be assured that we will be cleaning and sterilizing our church building after each mass in accordance to the Governor's guidelines and the Cardinal's recommendations. Ultimately, the responsibility of protecting ourselves and each other is the responsibility of all of us.

For now, attending mass on Sunday is not an obligation at this time because of the pandemic. I support Cardinal DiNardo in his recommendation that for those in the designated at risks groups to stay at home and participate in our live streaming of the masses (over 65 and dealing with physical conditions compromising your immunity). We will continue our scheduled online masses and rosaries to ensure the safety of everyone and to provide spiritual assistance to all. Many of you have faithfully participated in prayers and Spiritual Communion every single day of our social distancing, and you were able to praise God in the safety of your home.

We will not reopen for this weekend's masses, May 2 & 3. We will reopen on Tuesday, May 5 for the morning mass at 8:30am. I look forward to seeing you at mass in the coming weeks!

God's Blessings to you and your families, and please keep safe and healthy.

Fr. Ryszard Kulma