

# St. Paul's Church

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30 May 2020

We are preparing for our parish to reopen and we will continue to follow the CDC Guidelines, as we go along. There are several things you need to know before we open our doors for worship. We want to get the word out the quickest way possible, so we offer several ways for you to do that.

Calling the office at 315-736-1124, from 10am-3pm, Monday-Friday, once you receive this letter. If you have not updated your member information during our Journey to Bethlehem, you can do so now, the instructions are on our web page, [stpaulswhitesboro.org](http://stpaulswhitesboro.org), so that we have a current email address for you and your family.

You can also just email, [naltieri@stpaulswhitesboro.org](mailto:naltieri@stpaulswhitesboro.org), or [driggles@stpaulswhitesboro.org](mailto:driggles@stpaulswhitesboro.org) **with your**  
**1. name:            2. Phone no:    3. Email address:            4. The Mass time you want to attend:**  
**5. How many in your family will be attending.**

Keep in mind, seating will be limited. If, when you call or email your Mass time, and it is at its capacity, you will be asked to choose another Mass time where there is still room. The Mass times will be – Saturday at 4:00pm, Sunday at 8:00am & 10:30am. This schedule will allow us ample time to sanitize the building in between Masses. Currently, we will wait till the number of attendees are larger, before opening St. Paul's because of the sanitation measures we need to follow and the delay in getting products.

As the future weeks go by, we will easily be able to get information to you quickly through emails, if we don't have an email, we will mail you a notice. Updates will always be posted on our social media sites. Things change on a daily basis and our success in reopening properly and safely, depends on ALL our efforts. As it has been said many times, across the globe, we are all in it together!

There will be some changes to how our church and grounds will look. Entry is going to be dependent on masks, masks are mandated, so, no mask, no Mass. You will need to bring your own masks.

For our elder members of our parish, or those with compromised health issues, it is requested by the CDC to please stay at home for right now. Our first priority is for the safety and well being of our parish family and community. Keep in mind as we continue down this journey, 1Thessalonians 5:11 - *Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.* Let us join together to accomplish this.

If you are able to volunteer to help sanitize the church, please also specify that when you reply. We are estimating no more than 20-30 minutes after each Mass.

I cannot wait to see all of you and to worship together again.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience during these changing times and continue to pray that God will be our leader through His guidelines. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." John 15:12.

*Fr Tom*

## St. Paul's Church in Whitesboro - Reopening Guidelines



This is some of what will be different when you come to Mass.

- 1) Registration for Mass prior to opening, email or call the office as stated in this letter.
- 2) You Must have a mask to enter and wear it throughout the Mass, except when receiving the Eucharist.
- 3) No Holy Water will be in the Fonts,
- 4) No Bulletins will be handed out, it is posted online weekly,
- 5) No Choir at this time,
- 6) Offertory Basket will be at the Baptismal Font for you to put your weekly contributions in, an usher will assist you with this,
- 7) No Missalettes or papers will be in pews,
- 8) No Congregating before or after Mass in the building or parking lots,
- 9) No Communion on the tongue, only in the hand,
- 10) Follow traffic flow signs & ushers for inside and outside the church building.

The CDC web site is <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/immunocompromised.html>. This gives you a guideline for places of worship.

Also, some safety measures we request you follow, to help stop the spread of the virus is:

- 1) Have on fresh clean clothes and wash your hands, before you leave for Mass, Grab your Masks.
- 2) Try to avoid stops before Mass, it is best if you come directly to church.
- 3) Please do not bring, snacks or drinks into the church, no books or coloring books or drawing paper or pencils or pens for right now.
- 4) Keep social distancing to the six feet mark, when you arrive. Do not sit in pews that are marked no seating, or next to people who are already seated. Follow the ushers leads on where to sit and how to exit after Mass.
- 5) Only sit in areas and spots that are marked for seating.
- 6) Anyone attending Mass does so at their own volition.
- 7) If you are sick or have health issues, should stay home. Also, if you have a temp above 99.9\*, please stay home.
- 8) Dispensation from Mass continues at this time.

Our priority is to our parishioners in keeping them safe while attending Mass, we ask that you do the same. Please be mindful of these guidelines.

These guidelines will be updated as we journey along.

