

# ST. LUKE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

1674 OLD FREEHOLD ROAD • TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY 08755

To Our Dear Parish Family,

We are pleased to announce that St. Luke Parish will celebrate “in-Person” Mass beginning with the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, June 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. The Mass time on Saturday will be at 4:00 pm, and on Sunday we will have Masses at 7 am, 9 am and 11 am to allow for the cleaning and sanitizing of the church before and after the Masses. We will continue to livestream the 11:00 Mass. These Mass times are only temporary. We will also resume our weekday Mass schedule on Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 am. The daily Masses will also be livestreamed. You may view any livestreamed Mass through: <http://stlukestomsriver.org/holy-week-streaming-masses-schedule/>

A dispensation from Sunday/Holy Day obligation was granted in March so that the faithful ‘could stay home’ in good conscience. That dispensation remains in effect until Monday, September 7, 2020 (unless otherwise announced). If you are sick, have a fever, live with someone who is sick or has a fever, have COVID-19 or live with someone who has COVID-19 or are in a high-risk category or are anxious about attending public Mass, please stay home and attend Mass via the livestream.

The following are a few requirements if you decide to attend Mass at St. Luke during the weekend of the 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>:

### **When You Arrive:**

- Please do not arrive too early. Doors will not be opened until 30 minutes before the start of the Mass. You may stay in your car until the doors open. If you line up, please observe social distancing guidelines.
- There will be two entrances to St. Luke: the front parking lot will enter and exit via the door by the covered portico only. The back parking lot will enter and exit via the door by the Madonna Room only.
- Church seating is limited to one-third of our standard capacity. Counters will be present at the doors. Once capacity in the Church is reached, you will be directed to the Parish Center to view the Mass via livestream on the screen and Holy Communion will be brought to you.
- You must wear your mask at all times and adhere to social distancing guidelines. You must bring your own mask; we do not have masks to hand out.
- Restrooms will be available for emergency only. We ask that you please use your restroom at home before you come to the church.
- Sit only in the pews marked with a **green cross** card. Those pews marked with a **red stop sign** card are not to be used. Think Green, Go. Red, Stop!
- You may light a candle before Mass only. Please use hand sanitizer before and after doing so.
- Please do not touch the statues (gloves or no gloves) because of potential damage from the need to repeatedly sanitize them.
- There is no holy water or reading materials available. Bulletins will remain online only.
- Collection baskets will be by the doors between the church and the Narthex. You may place your offering in the basket either before or after Mass.



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### **During the Mass:**

- We will continue to announce ALL Mass Intentions at each Mass.
- We discourage congregational singing.
- Holy Communion will be distributed by Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion utilizing the empty pews marked with the red stop sign cards. Please remain seated and the Ministers will come to you. Communion will be offered only in the hand. You must not wear gloves. Those distributing Communion will follow USCCB and Diocesan COVID-19 recommendations for sanitizing hands.
- You are not to leave your pew after receiving Communion.
- Please do not present a pyx for the Eucharist to be brought home to the EMHC.
- At the end of Mass, the priest and Deacon will leave. Please remain in your pew and the ushers will facilitate dismissal in an orderly fashion-pew by pew.

### **After Mass:**

- After you leave your pew, you must go directly to your car.
- No one will be allowed to linger in the church or the Narthex, as sanitizing procedures will commence immediately in preparation for the next Mass.

This health crisis has changed all our daily lives and will continue to affect us for an indeterminate period. These changes, we pray, will be temporary, especially if we follow proper precautions. Thank you to everyone who has been able to send in your weekly offering via Faith Direct online or dropping off or mailing them to the Parish Office. It is essential to keeping St. Luke thriving. Even with the restrictions, it will be joyous to be able to worship together again in our beautiful church!

Please continue to keep me in your prayers as I will continue to keep our St. Luke family in mine.

Fr. Bob