

# *Saint Eugene Catholic Church*

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Dear Parishioners,

With the number of cases and deaths from Covid-19 still rising, the process of re-opening demands the firm exercise of caution and prudence in order to prevent the resurgence of Covid-19.

In accordance with directives from both Church and civil authorities, we move into Phase One of our reopening. This is how we plan to move forward with weekend Masses.

First and foremost, the obligation to attend Mass has not been reinstated. If you are part of the vulnerable population, sick, running a fever, have a cough, or just feel uncomfortable being in public at this time, you are encouraged to STAY HOME; please DO NOT come to Mass.

We will have outdoor Masses on Saturday, 5 PM in English and 6:30pm in Spanish. For Sunday Masses, we will continue with our current schedule, 10am for English and 12pm for Spanish Masses. Thanks be to God, September Photos Photography is helping us stream the mass, being mindful of Bishop Zarama's instruction, that those who are elderly, at risk, or uncomfortable coming out to group settings, may continue to worship from their own homes.

If the weather permits, an Altar outside in front of the main doors of the church will be set up. Parishioners can utilize the portion of circle and grassy areas. Please bring your lawn chairs and socially distance yourselves from other parishioners. We encourage you to wear your protective face masks, as a sign of caution and care, for yourself and those around you.

We will have special parking areas for the elderly and people with handicapped stickers, who will need to park close. We will ask others, who are able to, to park in the soccer fields and walk over.

The Gathering Space restrooms will be available in an emergency, and there will be one way in, and one way out, clearly labeled as such, in an effort to keep up with social distancing.

So, just to recap, please bring your own lawn chairs, face masks, prepare to socially distance yourself from other families, and be patient with us as we move into this first phase of re-opening.

## **From the Bishop's update:**

Social Distancing Requirements Summary and Other Recommendations

As stated by Governor Cooper in his Executive Order, social distancing is advised as follows:

- Maintain at least six (6) feet social distancing from other individuals, with the exception of family or household members.
- Wear a cloth mask or face covering during all indoor public settings and when outdoors, where at least six (6) feet of distancing may not be maintained, with the exception among those who are family and other household members.
- Carry and utilize hand sanitizer, when outside the home.
- Wash hands regularly, using soap and water for at least twenty seconds.
- Regularly clean contacted surfaces, such as steering wheels, wallets, and phones.
- If you are ill, be mindful of others by staying at home until the illness has passed.

I ask for your patience and understanding as we adapt to a new reality. This may seem abnormal for now but our "return to normalcy," whatever that may look like in the days ahead, would be achieved paradoxically through the most abnormal circumstances. I look forward to seeing you in person for the celebration of the Eucharist with your anti-Covid-19 gear on!

With Love,

Fr. Archie M. Tacay, CICM