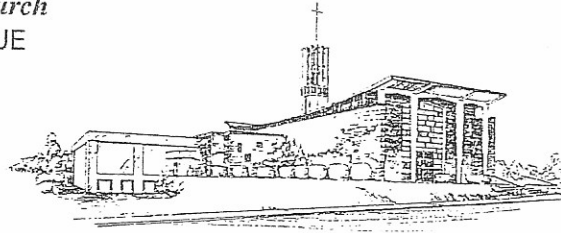


St. Mark the Evangelist Church  
395 SOUTH RIDGE AVENUE

P.O. BOX 218  
GREENCASTLE, PA 17225  
Telephone: (717) 597-2705



June 1, 2020

Dear Parishioners of St. Mark and St. Luke Parish,

We are so excited to say, "Welcome Back!" We have been busy planning for your return to celebrate the Sacred Mass together with you in person! We have new social distancing and health safety measures in place for our church.

**THE SAFETY OF ALL IS THE HIGHEST PRIORITY.** We understand that not all our parishioners will feel comfortable returning to Mass yet. **Bishop Gainer's dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass is still in effect.** Please, if you have any symptoms of COVID-19, are ill in any way, have a fever or are one of the most vulnerable groups, etc., please stay home and view Mass via TV or online.

Mass at St. Mark and St. Luke will begin the weekend of **June 13 & 14**, The Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. Until then, the Church will remain closed and the parish office will be open to the public on Mondays.

**Here is the schedule as we make this transition:**

### **CONFESSIONS**

Confessions will resume Monday, June 8 from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM in the social hall foyer (face to face only). Volunteers will help direct you in and out of St. Mark. Confessions will be offered every Monday at this time for the foreseeable future.

### **SUNDAY MASSES**

Because of the need to sanitize the Church/Social Hall after each Mass and the directive that we can have no more than 1/3 capacity in the Church/Social Hall, our Mass Schedule will be as follows:

**SATURDAY VIGIL - 5:00 PM in the Social Hall**

**SUNDAY - 9:00 AM at St. Mark in the Social Hall and 11:00 AM at St. Luke in Church**

Additional precautions: while on the church grounds, you must wear a mask and keep it on at all times, with the exception of receiving Holy Communion. Only the glass foyer doors to the social hall will be available for entrance at St. Mark. Hand sanitizer will be available at the entrances. An usher will show you where to sit once you arrive for Mass. This is to ensure social distancing is maintained and to seat as many people as possible. Seating is available on a first come, first serve basis. We are asking that you bring your own chairs to St. Mark. This will help with sanitizing after Mass. ***You bring it, you take it and we don't have to clean it!*** ☺ The metal folding chairs are available for those who need them and will be wiped down after each Mass.

## **DAILY MASSES**

Daily Masses will be celebrated in the social hall. Monday, Tuesday and Friday at 9 AM with Holy Hour following Mass. Thursday Mass will be at 7:00 PM with Holy Hour following Mass. No Mass on Wednesday unless scheduled in the bulletin.

Please note: these will be the new permanent Mass times.

For those who like to follow the readings during Mass it is ok to use your electronic devices. You can download the readings from the USCCB.org website prior to attending Mass as Wi-Fi is not available in the social hall. Missalettes will be provided (Maximum 2 per family). According to the Diocesan Guidelines, they are not to be shared and must be taken home and brought back each week for your use.

## **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

A major change in the ritual -per diocesan policy during a pandemic- is that Holy Communion will be distributed once Mass has ended. Social distancing is of utmost importance at all times, but particularly when proceeding to receive Holy Communion. The ushers will assist with this process. Once you receive Holy Communion you will exit the Church immediately. You are urged to make your thanksgiving on the way to, and inside, your car.

For those who choose to stay home and watch Mass on TV or online (EWTN or [www.mass-online.org](http://www.mass-online.org)), Holy Communion will be distributed at St. Mark Saturday at 6 PM and Sunday at 10 AM at the main entrance of the church. At St. Luke, Holy Communion will be distributed Sunday at noon at the front entrance of the church.

**PARISH COLLECTIONS:** There will not be a collection during Mass. A basket will be available in the Social Hall / Church.

**PARISH GROUNDS REMAIN CLOSED TO ANY PUBLIC MEETINGS OR GATHERINGS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

Please continue to keep your pastor and staff in your prayers as we work to enact all necessary safety aspects in order to resume public Masses.

**Keep an eye on our website for additional information!**

**Be Safe! Stay Healthy!**



Fr. Walter Guzmán