

November 2020

Dear Parishioners:

We are happy to announce our plans for the 2020 Christmas Masses. We appreciate everyone who completed our survey to help us determine the best times for everyone. Christmas Masses will look a bit different this year. For those planning to attend in person, we are working with reduced seating capacity of 25%, social distancing, and the need to wear a face mask.

Christmas Eve Masses (in the main church, overflow in Marian Hall): **4 pm, 7 pm, and 10 pm**

Christmas Day Mass (in the main church, overflow in Marian Hall): **10 am**

Additional Masses in the STANLEY CENTRE GYM will be available should we exceed the capacities in the Church and Marian Hall during any of these times.

What should you expect for Christmas Masses in 2020 at St. Catherine?

1. **If you are not feeling well**, please stay home and watch the live stream Mass on our website, on our Facebook, or on our YouTube channel.
2. Although Bishop Bradley has granted dispensation from attending Masses, **please remember your obligation to be mindful of your relationship with God and our need to give God thanks, especially on the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus**. Those who are sick or in a high-risk category (due to health problems) are encouraged to watch the live stream Mass.
3. **No reservations or holding seats before Masses**. Seating will be first come, first serve at all our Mass times for Christmas. We ask that you **do not** hold spots or pews for family members. We will not have additional seating in the Narthex area. We will not “pack” the church as we have in previous years. Our ushers will direct you to your seats.
4. **Please arrive early**. Once capacity is reached, doors will be closed, and you will be directed to go to the gym or come to another Mass.
5. **We will livestream the Vigil Mass of Christmas at 4 pm on Christmas Eve** on our website, on our Facebook page, and on our YouTube channel. The video of this Mass will then be available for viewing in all three locations.
6. **All our areas used for Mass will be cleaned and disinfected between Mass times**. This includes the bathrooms and other common areas.

I ask for your continued patience during these difficult times. If you and your family can join us for Christmas Mass, we will be ready to welcome you for our Christmas celebration.

Please note: Due to the Pandemic, any changes to the regulations and restrictions by the State or the Diocese could change our Christmas plans as outlined above. Please read the bulletin, our Facebook page, and our website for the most up to date information.

Sincerely,


Rev. Mark J. Vyverman
Pastor