



## ST. PATRICK PARISH

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Dear St. Patrick Parishioners:

It was March 10, 2020, that Michigan confirmed the first two COVID-19 cases causing Governor Whitmer to declare a state of emergency. In the ensuing days, the state began to shut down as an attempt to mitigate the spread of the virus. Bishop Walkowiak responded by suspending all weekend Masses beginning on March 13 and then all public ministries on March 17, our patronal feast day of St. Patrick. Since this time, St. Patrick Parish has gradually opened its ability to worship publicly although there is a long way to go.

While the opportunity to worship together on the weekends has been great for all of us, the time has come for us to return to worshipping in the church. So, beginning Saturday evening August 22, 2020, we will resume the celebration of weekend Mass in the church building. The schedule will be as follows for weekend Mass times:

Saturday 4:30 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM (LiveStream)

We will go back to our normal weekend schedule as attendance increases. You will also have the opportunity to attend a weekday Mass (instead of one of the weekend Masses) on Tuesday evenings at 6pm and Friday mornings at 8am, beginning August 25 and 28, 2020.

All scheduled Mass attendance beginning August 22, 2020, will be by sign up only to ensure that we do not exceed the 25% occupancy mandate which puts our attendance at 110 people inside the church. If you usually attend a weekday Mass, you must sign up while being considerate of giving others the opportunity to attend a weekday Mass if they are unable to attend on the weekend.

Wednesday and Thursday daily Masses are not open to the public as these will be school Masses exclusively beginning August 26 and 27, 2020.

## **Signing up for Mass in Church**

To sign up to attend any Mass please go to the parish website at [portlandstpats.com](http://portlandstpats.com). Click on the SignUpGenius - Sign Up button, this should take you to the Mass schedule. Then find the date and Mass time you would like to attend, click the Sign Up button, click submit and sign up button on the bottom. This will take you to a place you can enter your name and the number of people attending the Mass. If you do not have access to internet, please call the parish office (517-647-6505) and we will be happy to get you scheduled to attend Mass.

The restrooms will not be available for use. You will be seated by an usher to make sure we are utilizing seating appropriately.

Please remember when in the church you should be following social distance protocols. Please wear a mask unless medical conditions prohibit you from wearing one. Members of separate families sit six feet apart.

As we continue to move forward, please be patient and understanding that these times and attendance numbers may change. We will do everything possible to make sure you are informed of any changes in a timely manner. Please check the website for up-to-date information or contact the parish office.

You may also sign up to receive information from us via email or text messages through Evangelus (our new communication tool) instructions on the parish website ([portlandstpats.com](http://portlandstpats.com)).

Thank you for your continued support and prayers!

St. Patrick Staff