

Tuesday, June 16, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We reopen the parishes beginning on Friday, June 19th. We will return to our regular schedule of Masses and I list them below as many have perhaps forgotten during these unfortunate times.

Sunday Mass Schedule

4:00 PM (Saturday) St. Joseph Church
5:30 PM (Saturday) Christ the King Church
8:00 AM St. Joseph Church
10:00 AM St. Joseph Church

Monday 9:00 AM Christ the King Church
Tuesday 8:00 AM St. Joseph Church
Wednesday 8:00 AM St. Joseph Church
Thursday 8:00 AM St. Joseph Church
Friday 9:00 AM Christ the King Church
Saturday 8:00 AM St. Joseph Church

The Good News is that we may allow 50% of capacity or 250 people. Knowing that when we opened at 25% capacity, we did not come close to that percentage at any of our 4 weekend masses. I am sure that it will continue with a gradual return of parishioners as we are still holding to the protocols of social distancing, hand washing/hand sanitizing, and stay-at-home-if-you-are-sick or if a loved one at home has existing health conditions. Please, follow the guidelines seriously. **Remember that the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains until further notice.** This is an act of charity for the most vulnerable (65 and older) of our community. We will continue to live-stream and record the 4:00 PM (Saturday) Mass for our homebound parishioners, viewable through our parish website at stjosephwatonna.org.

Please pray your rosaries, the chaplet of the Divine Mercy, or the breviary/Liturgy of the Hours if you have one. Take advantage of the many spiritual helps found on EWTN and the Catholic websites we list on our parish website. We are living through very serious and difficult times. The devil brings disruption and division. With our life centered in God and prayer, we seek the good of all and unity. Let us give witness to our love of God and neighbor through prayer and acts of charity. Jesus tells us all, personally, in today's Gospel: "But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father, . . ."

God Love You!

Fr. Jim Staranich