

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

180 West Broadway Jim Thorpe, PA 18229

GREEN PHASE UPDATE AS OF JUNE 27, 2020:

*** PLEASE NOTE CHANGES MARKED WITH ASTERISK ***

Mass attendance is voluntary. Those who do not feel safe, or who have compromising health conditions, should not attend. The dispensation from the Mass obligation will remain in place throughout the Diocese until further notice. The Bishop has left the schedule/number of Masses up to the discretion of each Parish Priest.

Mass Schedule

Immaculate Conception: Tuesday @ 8:00 a.m.; Saturday @ 4:30 p.m.

St. Joseph Church: Thursday @ 8:00 a.m.; Sunday @ 8:00 a.m.

Mass intentions for the remaining Masses will continue to be said privately by Fr. Ward.

ICC & St. Joseph will have slightly different protocols due to their individual resources. The following is for Masses held at Immaculate Conception Church

MASKS ARE REQUIRED WHILE IN ATTENDANCE

ENTRANCE: Only the parking lot door will be used for entering/exiting the church. Please do not use the Main doors to enter/exit the church.

SANITATION: Hand sanitizer will be available at the entrance. Dispensers have been purchased but are currently on back-order. We hope to have them in place within a couple of weeks. Ushers will be dispensing sanitizer as you enter. You are also encouraged and welcome to bring your own.

***UPDATED GREEN PHASE LIMITED CAPACITY:** Attendance will be limited for Mass. At Immaculate Conception no more than **80 people** will be permitted to be in the church at one time. Once we reach that capacity there will be no one else allowed inside church. This number may slightly vary if space allows, depending on family size attending. St. Joseph Church will have a capacity of 75.

***UPDATED PEW SPACING:** Every other pew will be available and the choir loft will be closed. Those attending are asked to follow physical distance guidelines and remain at least 6 feet apart within the pews. Families that live together may obviously sit together. Potentially we can have 3 individuals, or 2 sets of couples, or 1 family allowed per pew.

COMMUNION: Distribution of Holy Communion will take place following the closing of Mass. There will be marks on the floor to follow for the 6 foot social distance allowance. Please line up single file in the center aisle. Communion can be received in hand or on the tongue but we encourage everyone to receive in the hand to keep exposure risks to a minimum for both you and Father Ward. Father will wear a mask during distribution of Communion. Do not lower your mask until you reach Father to receive Communion. After, please exit the church through the side parking lot door.

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS: Collection baskets will not be passed during Mass. There is a collection box in front of the Baptismal font where you can deposit your envelope as you enter/exit. You may also continue to drop them through the mail slot/send through the Post Office, use the E-offering page on our Website or the Diocesan Website. Also, consider contacting your bank to do an electronic transfer. Thank you to everyone who continued to support the Parish during this time!

***UPDATED VOTIVE CANDLES:** Votive candles can now be lit by those attending Mass. Please use the sanitizer provided before lighting matches & candles and do not re-use matches.

BULLETINS: Will be available in Church and on the Rectory porch for those who will not be attending Mass but would like a bulletin. Please do not leave them in the pew, take them home with you. You can also sign up to have the bulletin emailed to you. Please contact the Rectory office if you would like to have the bulletin electronically delivered.

CHANGE TO INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS: Beginning June 2nd
Immaculate Conception: Fridays, 4:00-5:00 p.m.;
St. Joseph Church: Mondays, 6:30 to 7:00 p.m.

OTHER NOTES: There will be no Hymnals or prayer cards available in the pews. There will not be an organist or a choir for any Mass. Gathering in the parking lot is not permitted.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Immaculate Conception is STILL looking for volunteers to help at each of the Masses.

USHERS: We need at least two to three (2-3) ushers for the Masses to help counting the faithful as they enter the church, and to post and restrict more from entering when capacity is reached, dispensing sanitizer until our dispensers arrive, and to help light Votive candles and to make sure everyone is following social distance guidelines within the pews and when receiving Communion.

CLEANING CREWS: **SEARCHING FOR A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS TO HELP ROTATE CLEANING!! We need volunteers willing to help clean the church two times a week (ideally 2 crews of at least 4 to 5 volunteers - 1x a week each) Cleaning would be done on Mondays and Thursdays. Once a month we will have a professional cleaning crew, so we would only need 1 crew to clean on Monday that week. This would involve wiping down pews, handles, doors, and cleaning bathrooms. Cleaning products, gloves and masks will be provided.

Please contact the Rectory office if you are willing to help, 570-325-2791 or email iccjt@ptd.net. Leave a message with your name and phone number and when you are able to volunteer. If we are unable to obtain enough volunteers we will reduce or eliminate Masses at Immaculate Conception until we enter the Green Phase.