

June 25, 2020

I just want to give you some updates to our parish life but remember we are still in a world with a potentially deadly virus among us and while many seem to believe and, certainly act, as if it was a false alarm, it is too soon to relax our vigilance.

Despite the claims about rights and freedoms by our own Catholic Church in some instances, our first obligation is to love our neighbor as ourselves and the public safety protocols are designed to help us do that.

So while we do have rights, we, also, have obligations, and if public health professionals deem face masks and social distancing a means of containing or preventing to any extent the spread of this virus then we have the obligation to deny ourselves in trying to fulfill that basic command of Jesus.

That being said under those conditions that are recognized as steps to protect the health of others, many of our First Communion families will begin celebrations of First Communion at special Masses on August Sunday afternoons almost as they would have been celebrated on Sunday mornings in May.

On July Sunday afternoons, we will begin baptizing babies and then in August we will do that on weekday evenings or any other time that families may choose.

I will have some or all of these recorded and we will post them so you can be a part of these wonderful parish events.

Looking forward to CFP and other faith formation and religious education programs we will be creative but keep the unique traditions that our parish values and enjoys but we will need patience and prudence.

We want to see what the Munster and Lake Central Schools are going to do and what guidance and protocols the Diocese of Gary will apply.

Our Casa Maria/Hall Rental business is on hold for now, and we have had to cancel some events and that is stressful for us and I know disruptive to people who have planned events but the Diocese of Gary has only as of this time

authorized the use of parish buildings for Mass and the celebration of the Sacraments and funerals and that policy is in effect until at least Labor Day as of now but it may be extended as we watch the progression of this disease.

If you go back and read about other viral plagues in history you can see that this virus is performing in pretty similar ways and is not at all subject to dates and stages and reopening plans and the more foolhardy people were, the more deaths there were.