

June 4, 2020

Dear Faithful,

This coming Sunday, there are a few things that will look different. Some of these temporary changes will be more noticeable than others. But I encourage you to remember the inestimably precious treasure that we are coming to receive in the Holy Mass, Communion and Confession. These sacrifices remind me of our FSSP parish in Imo, Nigeria. Many of the faithful there have to walk several hours each direction to attend Mass on Sunday, and often in extreme conditions. I know that many of you too are already making very significant sacrifices to attend Mater Dei. This is a wonderful proof of your belief that, as St Paul tells us, *the sufferings of this time are not worthy to be compared with the glory to come.*

In compliance with the diocesan directives here are a few things that you will see when you come to Mass on Sunday:

- Holy Water will not be in the stoops. But the canister will be full for those wishing to refill their home supply.
- Every other pew will be set aside to promote social distancing.
- We will distribute Holy Communion after Mass has ended. Communion will be received on the tongue at the Communion Rail. If you would like the priest to sanitize his fingers before giving you Communion, simply raise your hand as he approaches.

- The collection will not be taken up during Mass. Instead two drop boxes will be in the back of church for offerings to be placed in.
- The Confessional has a new light and fan installed in the penitent's side to facilitate cleanliness and ventilation. Before each use, the penitent may wipe down the area with the disinfectants provided. Multiple layers of screen are in place between the priest and penitent.
- Hymnals will not be in the pews. But a small handout will be available containing the English translations of the propers of the Mass.
- The sign <u>(linked here)</u> is up in the back of the church. You are asked to comply with it insofar as you are able.
- Volunteers will be sanitizing the church and restrooms after each Mass.
- The handicap restroom in the back of church is under construction while we add a second restroom beside it. For the next two weeks, restrooms in the school building will be available through the courtyard.

Thank you all for your patience and charity as we go through this process.

God bless you.

Fr. Gregory Eichman FSSP - Chaplain