

Update on Reopening Our Local Churches: Dodge, Clarkson, and Olean
Developed on April 30, 2020
Important Information for You to Know

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Wenceslaus, Ss Cyril and Methodius, and Sacred Heart Church,

It is a wild time in the world concerning the coronavirus. We are at a moment when the State of Nebraska-Governor Pete Ricketts and the Archdiocese of Omaha are making decisions about the reopening of churches and other places of businesses on May 4th. Individual priests may opt for opening at a different point in time. As your pastor, I have opted to delay this due to the sharp rise of virus cases in our area we will delay resuming the regular mass schedule. Please continue to watch Masses online via Facebook or TV programming. We will provide additional updates when available for the opening of these three churches.

If you have any questions, contact me at frkneifl@aol.com or my cell phone 402-910-4378.

Peace, Fr. Rod Kneifl



Please read the following carefully. Here are some factors to consider about mass etiquette when we resume masses in the future. These conditions may change at a later date.

- * Father and the other ministers will not greet people before or after the liturgy;
- * The sacristy is closed except to those assisting with the liturgy;
- * There will be a couple of ushers for each Mass to help people to acclimate to the new normal of Mass.
- * Please keep appropriate social distance during and after the liturgy, and do not congregate inside or outside of the church building;
- * Please be certain that children stay with their families during and after the liturgy;
- * **Sit in every other pew. Look for the pew with a piece of blue tape on the end of it to sit in. Your whole family can sit in a pew. If there are several people from different households-sit such as 6 feet apart.** We are sitting in every other pew.
- * In accordance with the Archdiocese of Omaha, they are asking for the missals, music books, and other printed information to be removed from the pews.
- * During this time the lector, an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, and 1 altar server will be participating in the Mass by the altar area.
- * For the present time, there will be no bringing forth of the gifts-bread and wine to the altar at the offertory time of Mass. These gifts will be by the altar area.
- * During this time, there will be no Sign of Peace such as shaking of hands etc.
- * For the reception of Holy Communion, for the safety of our ministers, please maintain a six-foot distance in line and please consider receiving Holy Communion in the hand and not on the tongue. In Olean and Dodge, there will be two people distributing Communion: one in the front of the altar area and one in the back of church. In Clarkson, there will be 3 people distributing Communion in front of the altar, and one on each side of church near the stain glass windows.
- * We will continue to livestream the Masses as we have been doing now. Look on the parish website for this livestream of Masses on the schedule of Olean-Saturday 5:00 pm
Clarkson-Sat 7:00 pm and Sunday 10:00 am
Dodge-Sunday 8:00 am.
Weekday Masses Mon-Thurs 8:15 am
Website for Clarkson:
<http://bit.ly/sscyrilmethodiusclarkson>
Website for Dodge and Olean:
<http://www.stwenc.org/>
- * The collection baskets will be located by the front pew. When you come up for receiving Communion put your donation in at this time.
- * During the time of Communion, maintain at least 6 feet distance between you and the next person. There will be a distribution of Communion in the back of Church at this time. If you do receive Communion in the back of Church and you want

- to donate your contribution at Mass, bring it forward after Mass is over to the front of church.
- * After each Mass is over, the pews will be wiped down with a disinfectant along with the doors etc.
- * If you are not ready to return to Mass, wait until the coast is clear for you. The obligation to attend weekend Mass has not been reinstated.
- * **Confessions will still be heard** on Saturday evening Olean at 4:30 pm, Clarkson at 6:35 pm and Sunday morning Dodge 7:35 pm and Clarkson 9:35 am.

Those who are helping to distribute Communion at Mass should wash their hands before Mass and use hand sanitizer before distributing Communion.

For everyone attending Mass, use the sanitizer located before entering church and leaving church of each Mass.

People who should be encouraged to stay home at this time:

- * Elderly
- * People with underlying medical conditions
- * Family members who live with elderly people or those who are at risk
- * People who have access to those at risk in nursing institutions
- * People who have upper respiratory or flu like symptoms
- * People who live with someone with upper respiratory or flu like symptoms
- * People with COVID-19 or live with someone with COVID-19
- * People who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19

The symptoms of COVID-19:

Symptoms usually begin 2 to 14 days after you come into contact with the virus.

Symptoms may include: sore throat, headache, chills, sometimes with shaking, loss of smell or taste, stuffy nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.

If you have any of these symptoms, isolate yourself. This means staying away from other people as much as possible, even members of your family. Stay in a specific “sick room,” and use a separate bathroom if you can. If you have symptoms and are at high risk of complications because of your age or other health conditions, call your doctor in addition to isolating yourself.

Serious Symptoms

Call a doctor or hospital right away if you have one or

more of these COVID-19 symptoms: trouble breathing, constant pain or pressure in your chest, bluish lips or face, sudden confusion.

You need medical care as soon as possible. Call your doctor’s office or hospital before you go in. This will help them prepare to treat you and protect medical staff and other patients.

Strokes have also been reported in some people who have COVID-19. Remember FAST:

Face. Is one side of the person’s face numb or drooping? Is their smile lopsided?

Arms. Is one arm weak or numb? If they try to raise both arms, does one arm sag?

Speech. Can they speak clearly? Ask them to repeat a sentence.

Time. Every minute counts when someone shows signs of a stroke. Call 911 right away.

Lab tests can tell if COVID-19 is what’s causing your symptoms. But the tests can be hard to find, and there’s no treatment if you do have the disease. So you don’t need to get tested if you have no symptoms or only mild ones. Call your doctor or your local health department if you have questions.

Please look at this as an opportunity to exercise patience, charity, and meekness during this time.

If you have any questions, contact me at the parish telephone number, frkneifl@aol.com or my cell phone 402-910-4378.

Peace, Fr. Rod Kneifl