

Dear parishioner,

I am very sorry that because of our current restrictions on Mass attendance, you were not able to be accommodated at the Sunday Mass you intended to attend in person. Please know this is not a personal rejection of you, nor is it in any way the Catholic Church doing so.

Because I truly care about your spiritual growth and well-being, I would like to propose the following for you, which will become standard practice going forward until further notice, as you may have read recently in the *Danville News*. Namely, even though you could not join us today in person, Mass is still being recorded and uploaded to our parish YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/StJosephChurchDanvillePA), now each Saturday evening by about 7:30 pm. Please watch this Mass online some time on Sunday morning. If you do not have Internet access, please watch Sunday Mass on EWTN or another TV channel. **Then, at 1 pm on Sunday afternoon, I invite you to return to St. Joseph's to receive Holy Communion.** The distribution of Holy Communion will take place in the following way:

From Ferry Street, turn on to Cole's Alley, keeping your car all the way to the right side of the alley. Pull up to the overhang. Exit your car and proceed to where I am standing. (If you live together in the same household with anyone else in your car, you may approach together). You are to wear a face mask of some sort that you provide. Standing before me, we will together make the sign of the cross. Then I will pray, "Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to His supper." To which you will respond, "Lord, I am not worth that you should enter under by roof. But only say the word and my soul shall be healed." You are then to lower your face mask. You may then receive the Eucharist in the hand or on the tongue, although for health concerns you are encouraged to receive reverently in the hand at this time. After receiving Holy Communion immediately, you are asked to raise your mask again as you return to your car. Immediately afterwards, please carefully pull away from the overhang. At some convenient place (perhaps the side church parking lot, or perhaps at home), please pray one of the Acts of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion found on the reverse side. In the meantime, the next car is to pull up to the overhang, and the other cars pull closer. All cars should form a line. If need be, the line may continue on to Ferry Street by keeping to the curb. I will continue until the last car in the line, and then will conclude the distribution of Holy Communion.

Please note, if you have any symptoms of respiratory illness, or if you've had recent contact with anyone with COVID-19, you are asked to not present yourself for Holy Communion until recovered, or until self-quarantine is completed (14 days).

Moreover, until further notice the following is in effect: If for personal health reasons you decide at this time to refrain from the public celebration of Sunday Mass in the church, or if as happened today, you are not able to attend Mass in person because of the church occupancy quota, you are encouraged to watch Mass (online or on TV) on Sunday before 1 pm, and then receive Holy Communion in the way outlined above at 1 pm. God bless you.

In Christ's love
Fr. Marcoe

1) Act of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion

From the depths of my heart I thank You, dear Lord, for Your infinite kindness in coming to me. How good You are to me! With Your most holy Mother and all the angels, I praise Your mercy and generosity toward me, a poor sinner. I thank You for nourishing my soul with Your Sacred Body and Precious Blood. I will try to show my gratitude to You in the Sacrament of Your love, by obedience to Your holy commandments, by fidelity to my duties, by kindness to my neighbor and by an earnest endeavor to become like You in my daily conduct. Amen.

2) Act of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion

I give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
who have been pleased to nourish me,
a sinner and your unworthy servant,
with the precious Body and Blood
of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ:
this through no merits of mine,
but due solely to the graciousness of your
mercy.

And I pray that this Holy Communion
may not be for me an offense to be punished,
but a saving plea for forgiveness.
May it be for me the armor of faith,
and the shield of good will.
May it cancel my faults,
destroy concupiscence and carnal passion,

increase charity and patience, humility and
obedience and all the virtues,
may it be a firm defense against the snares of
all my enemies, both visible and invisible,
the complete calming of my impulses,
both of the flesh and of the spirit,
a firm adherence to you, the one true God,
and the joyful completion of my life's course.

And I beseech you to lead me, a sinner,
to that banquet beyond all telling,
where with your Son and the Holy Spirit
you are the true light of your Saints,
fullness of satisfied desire, eternal gladness,
consummate delight and perfect happiness.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

3) Act of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion

My good Jesus, I thank Thee with all my heart for giving me Thyself,
the Source of all graces, in Holy Communion.
I thank Thee for all the blessings that I have received from Thee,
especially through the Holy Eucharist,
in which Thou art ever present to console us and to help us in our needs.

In thanksgiving of all Thy favors, I offer Thee all that I am and have.
Dispose of me according to Thy pleasure.
May Thy will be done in me and through me now and forever.
Jesus, receive my poor offering. What can I give Thee?
I give myself to Thee, that I may always serve Thee.
I give Thee my body, that it may be chaste and pure.
I give Thee my soul, that it may be free from sin.
I give Thee my heart, that it may always love Thee.
I give Thee every breath that I shall breathe, and especially my last;
I give Thee myself in life and in death, that I may be Thine forever and glorify Thee eternally. Amen.