

## PASTORAL PLAN FOR REOPENING ST. JOAN OF ARC CHURCH

The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, issued by Bishop da Cunha, remains in effect until further notice. Those who are most vulnerable and at a greater risk due to age, preexisting health conditions, or in close proximity to vulnerable people are encouraged to remain home at this time. If you or a close loved one shows any symptoms of illness, please do not come to church.

**The weekend Mass schedule here at St. Joan of Arc Church will remain the same throughout the summer months... Saturday at 5:00pm, Sunday at 8:00am and 10:00am.** We have decided this primarily because adding another Mass on Sunday morning, as we normally do during the summer months, would not allow sufficient time to properly sanitize the church after each Mass. Mass intentions that have already been requested for 9:30am will be included with the 8:00am Mass for that day and the intentions requested for 11:00am will be remembered at the 10:00am Mass of that day unless otherwise requested. **During the week Mass is celebrated Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:00am.**

Per state regulations, gatherings cannot exceed 40% of a house of worship's occupancy capacity. Taking into account social distancing of 6 feet between people (or households), means only approximately 3 people in every other pew.

All worshippers will enter the church through the Main Entrance. For safety and order, a person will not be able to choose a specific seat. A specially trained group of greeters will be used to assist people to their seats. Once we reach our occupancy limit, we will not be able to admit others. Charity, cooperation and understanding are asked of all.

Everyone entering the church is required to wear a mask or other face covering. Please provide your own masks. While there is hand sanitizer available at the entrance, please consider providing your own, if you can, as supply is limited.

There will be receptacles at the entrance of the church in which you may place your contribution to the parish as you enter. You may place both 1st and 2nd collections together. On-line giving is encouraged via our parish website. Thank you so much for your support, especially at this extraordinary time.

The offertory procession (bringing up of the bread and wine) and the usual sign of peace will be eliminated. You may offer the sign of peace with a head nod and wave. The holy water fonts at the doors of the church will remain empty. Missals/hymnals have been removed as it would be difficult to sanitize them. Singing will be eliminated from our worship until further notice.

Holy Communion will be distributed at the usual time during the Mass. Those receiving Communion will approach row by row (keeping the 6 feet safe distancing protocol) and section by section. Please remain at your pew until your row is called. The priest will distribute Communion with sanitized hands while wearing a mask. Communicants may lift their mask just prior to receiving Holy Communion.

Following the Final Blessing, please immediately, reverently and quietly leave the church by the door closest to your pew maintaining the 6 feet distancing protocol. Upon exiting the church, please refrain from congregating near the doors of the church. After each Mass, the tops of the benches, door handles and other high traffic areas will be sanitized.

Scheduling for Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers will be suspended for the time being. All parish ministries and events will remain suspended until further notice. The church will be closed following each Mass. The Parish Office, Faith Formation Office and Thrift Shop will remain closed.

I encourage all who make the prudent judgment for themselves not to return to church for Mass, to instead participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and view other good quality spiritual programming on Catholic TV, found on your local cable Channel 268 or on EWTN, Channel 56. Mass is televised each Sunday at 11:00am on Channel 6. You can also view daily Mass on-line at <http://www.catholictv.org/masses/catholictv-mass>.

Let us remember one another in prayer especially those most in need of our prayers at this time. Let us commit ourselves to prayer for an end to the COVID-19 coronavirus.

**MASS INTENTIONS  
THIS WEEK**

Saturday	5:00	Cecilia Davis
Sunday	8:00	Charlie Wolff
		Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
	10:00	Chuck Goslee
Monday	8:00	Barbara Kane Canal
Tuesday	8:00	Judy Slosek
Wed	8:00	Judith Fitzpatrick
Fri	8:00	Edward, Kathleen, & Helen McCormick

**NEXT WEEKEND**

Saturday	5:00	Wayde Mason, Morris Fuller
Sunday	8:00	Fr. Bob Kemmery, Parish Family
	10:00	Frank Davis

**COLLECTION RESULTS—THANK YOU!**

August 30 Regular	\$ 4,705
Diocesan Appeal	\$ 68,875

**CATHOLIC APPEAL**

Thanks to you and the generosity of many throughout our diocese, the 2020 Catholic Appeal raised more than \$3.5 million in gifts and pledges to sustain its longstanding mission of serving those in greatest need. The St. Joan of Arc Parish total is \$68,875. In this year like no other, the demand for the many agencies, ministries, and programs funded by the Diocesan Catholic Appeal has never been higher. We continue to welcome donations (which will now be counted as “new money” toward the 2021 Appeal) online at [www.givefrdiocese.org/2020](http://www.givefrdiocese.org/2020) or by mail to the Catholic Appeal Office at 450 Highland Ave., Fall River, MA 02720. It is more important than ever that we spread the mission and the message of the Catholic Appeal every day. On behalf of all who will be assisted through the Catholic Appeal, thank you for your loving support.

**GABRIEL SYSTEM ON-LINE GIVING**

Thanks to all who have donated through the envelope system or through Gabriel, our online giving program. **Whether you choose to continue with the envelopes or donate online, we encourage you to register with Gabriel so we can build an up-to-date parish census that will include emails and mobile phone numbers.**

**Directions:** On the left-hand side of our website home page, scroll down beneath the photo of the church until you see the Online Giving icon. Click the icon which gives you two options: 1) to register, and 2) to donate. You only need to register when making your first online donation.

**PLEASE HELP US KEEP  
THESE LISTS UP TO DATE**

**PRAY FOR THE ILL OF THE PARISH**

Martin Coughlin, Loretta Stephens, Harry Marcoux, John Keane, Tris Windle, David Cousins, Lynne Scalia, Alex Podeszwa, Thomas Stone, Nick Bartick, Pam Hedlund, Len Hedlund, Greg Morongell, Nora Gould, Edan Pearl, Anne Caruso, John M. Pollard, Peter Cruickshank, Bill Hannon, Ivy Davis, Maddy Hayes, Clare Stevenson, Joseph Nosari, Vincent Lencvewski, Jeffrey Wolfgang, Joan Ouellette, Bev Sarazin, Tyler Bencotter, Agnes Wolfgang, Fr. Paul Smith, Marilyn Drewes, Ray Castriotta, Julianne Sullivan, Robert Grudzina, Marge LaGrassa, Jim Lewis, Joyce Loechner, Frank Salomone, Chad Larivee, Dick Wentworth, Nuvia Downs, Karen Mary McNulty, Olivia Hart, Alex Haas, Patrick Devine, Gerry Csaposs, Addie Priess, Frank McCarthy, Andree Yager, Paul Kascsak, Patty Camarra, James Manley, Betty Babcock, Thomas Murphy, Chris Frazier, Melissa K., Baby Lillian Thoman, Jessica O., Fran McDonagh, Donna Hibbert, Margaret Royce, Beth Nixon, Anne O'Brien, Ben McMahon, Gerry Moynihan, Martha Moynihan, Richard Paskiewicz, Mary Rodrigues, Emily Sparks, Stephen Moreau, Paula Madeiro, Paul Brandon, Rita Folger, Gerri DiCristina, Kathleen Kilmer, Marguerite Forren, Mary Pickard, Deepthi Moola, Steve Novick, Ernie T., Eleanor Symecko, Joseph Wignot, Hector Pelletier, Bob Cunnane, Thomas McSparron, Evelyn Reidel

**PRAY FOR OUR ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE  
MEN AND WOMEN**

Brandy Nelson, Timothy Horigan, Scott Doucette, Michael Wilson, David Lucas, Sean Lucas, Peter Civita Shayne, Peter Cabral, Gregory DeLuca, Joshua Schmitt, Joseph Long, Brad Howard, Thomas Scudder, Jeffrey Stebbins, Phillip McDonough, David Wilcox, John Amick, David McDonald, Lt. Edward J. Maloney, Andrew Kelley, William James Miller, David Orloski, Stephen Tammaro, Michael L. Hamilton, Thomas Crawford, Aaron Charette, Nicholas McGahey, Edward Pruffer, Christian P. Goodman, Trevor Lafontaine, Connor Lafontaine, Colin Bracken, Michael Bracken

**PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DECEASED**

Loretta Reiter

## STREAMING MASS

The 5:00pm Saturday Vigil Mass will now be streamed to Facebook each week. To view the Mass, go to the parish website at [www.joanarc.org](http://www.joanarc.org) and press the Facebook icon. This will launch the St. Joan of Arc Parish Facebook page. The Mass will be at the top of the postings. Audio recordings of the weekend homily are posted on our parish website, as well.

## LOCAL RE-OPENS

LOCAL volunteers are providing lunches and other grocery items for TAKE-OUT from the Parish Center each Tuesday. Pick up time is from 11:30 to 12:30 only. Those picking up items must wear face masks and bring their own bags. Social distancing must be maintained and only one person at a time will be allowed into the center where volunteers will distribute meals and some groceries immediately inside the doors.

## STATE OF THE DIOCESE REPORT

Bishop da Cunha and the Diocese of Fall River recently released a *State of the Diocese of Fall River Report, 2014-2019*. The intent of the publication is to provide parishioners, benefactors, volunteers and employees with a better understanding of how their support enables the mission of the Catholic Church in Southeastern Massachusetts, Cape Cod, and the Islands. We hope you find it helpful and informative. The full report is available on the diocesan website <https://www.fallriverdiocese.org/>



## Weekly Reflection by Judy Burt Walker, Director of Faith Formation

### Effective Truth-Tellers

A mother, whose son had an insatiable desire for sweets, brought him a long distance to talk to Gandhi. Gandhi told the mother to bring her son back in two weeks. In two weeks, the mother again made the long, arduous journey. This time Gandhi spoke simply and directly to the boy: “*Stop eating so much sugar.*” At once, the boy agreed. Relieved, but somewhat annoyed, the mother asked Gandhi why he did you not just say this to the boy two weeks ago and save her the hardship of traveling all the way back?

Gandhi replied, “*Two weeks ago I ate too many sweets. I needed to see if I could stop before I counseled the boy.*”

We cannot be effective truth-tellers, or call others to task, if we don’t *live* the message – we cannot ‘*rage*’ for peace. We cannot protest injustice *and* act unjustly in the process. We cannot sing: “*They’ll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*”, and spread malicious gossip. It is not enough to bluntly tell the truth. St. Paul writes to his community in Rome: “*Our first duty is to love.*” To be an effective truth-teller and to call others to this truth, we must come from a place of genuine love – and that is not easy! Again Paul writes: *love takes no delight in another’s wrong-doing and bears no sense of self-righteousness in the face of another’s failure.* The Gandhi story illustrates that the humble acknowledgment of one’s own faults, followed by the willingness to change, are powerful prerequisites to guiding others. In this way destructive behavior is never ignored; but neither is it attacked by the equally destructive tools of shame and condemnation.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus outlines a practical application of our common calling to be loving truth-tellers. His blueprint for caring and effective confrontation looks very much like the classic intervention described in Twelve-Step programs. Each “step” involves the thoughtful, prayerful presence of someone who shares the journey with the individual who has “transgressed”. There is no condemnation – simply truth-telling and support.

As we look back upon our lives, it is often the teacher, parent; spouse; friend – the person who cared enough to tell us kindly when we were out of line – that is invaluable to us. They are the ones that helped us to get our bearings when we were headed off-course. They are the ones who stood by us as we painfully re-charted our course. May we hold ourselves to the highest standards of kindness; truth-telling; prayerful discernment; and courageous integrity as we embark on our call as Jesus’ followers to promote these same values in our families; in our local communities; in the country; and the world.

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