

**Important Information**  
**Concerning the Partial Re-Opening of Mother Cabrini Church.**  
**12 May 2020**

On 12 March 2020, Bishop Ronald Gainer dispensed the faithful of the Diocese of Harrisburg from the Sunday Obligation and the Holy Days of Obligation.

**THAT DISPENSATION REMAINS IN EFFECT.**

On 16 March 2020, Bishop Gainer suspended all public masses in the diocese. With the Governor of Pennsylvania transitioning some counties of the state from “RED” to “YELLOW” status, Bishop Gainer has issued guidelines for the PARTIAL re-opening of parishes in the “YELLOW” zone of the diocese.

The following is very important information relating to how we at Mother Cabrini parish will implement those guidelines. Further updates to these plans may be issued based on pastoral needs, and depending on our ability to provide a safe worship space for all of us. Consult the parish web site or Facebook page often for updates.

First, and most importantly, following the directives of our state government, **THOSE WHO ARE SICK, OR THOSE WHO HAVE HEALTH CONDITIONS THAT MAKE THEM MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO ILLNESS, SHOULD CONTINUE TO REMAIN AT HOME AT THIS TIME.**

On the weekend of 16-17 May 2020, and during the following weekdays, Mother Cabrini will offer Mass at the following times:

Saturday, May 16	4 pm	(Church opening at 3:45 pm)
Sunday, May 17	7 am	(Church opening at 6:45 am)
	9 am	(Church opening at 8:45 am)
	11 am	(Church opening at 10:45 am)
Daily Mass (Mon. – Sat.)	8 am	(Church opening at 7:45 am)

Please observe the following procedures:

- **ALL THOSE ENTERING THE CHURCH MUST WEAR A MASK.**
- Before the first mass, and after each mass, the entire church will be properly sanitized.
- Parishioners may only enter the church through the center doors at the front of the church, or the handicap accessible entrance on the side of the church.

- **ONCE MASS BEGINS NO ONE ELSE WILL BE ADMITTED.**
- Hand sanitizer will be available at the entrances.
- Once inside the church, immediately proceed to a pew. Each available seat is marked by a strip of BLUE TAPE. We are limited to using every third row of pews, with a six-foot distance between each worshipper. Infants and very small children may sit with a parent, or other responsible adult.
- Be advised that because of the social distancing guidelines mandated by the diocese, the maximum capacity of Mother Cabrini church is **48 persons**.
- The hymnals and missalettes have been removed for your protection.
- Those wishing to receive Holy Communion will do so **AFTER** mass (see below).
- After the dismissal, or after making a reverent thanksgiving after receiving the Eucharist, immediately exit the church so that the process to sanitize the church can commence as soon as possible. At this time, no one will be admitted to the church between, or after masses (Sundays and Weekdays).
- The above protocols will also be in force for the daily 8 am mass.

The following procedures will be used for those who wish to receive Holy Communion **AFTER** mass:

- After the Dismissal of the mass, the presider will return briefly to the sacristy in order to remove the mass vestments and to wash his hands and to put on a mask.
- He will then go to the tabernacle and bring the Blessed Sacrament in front of the altar, saying “Behold the Lamb of God ...” The assembly will respond, as usual at mass, “Lord, I am not worthy ...”
- Maintaining a six-foot social distance, those wishing to receive Holy Communion will come forward in a **SINGLE LINE**. Please follow the guidance of the ushers. Hand sanitizer will be available to clean hands before receiving the Eucharist. Remove your mask as you approach the priest to receive communion, replacing it after receiving.
- Once you have received communion, you are invited to return to your pew to make a reverent thanksgiving, then leaving the church immediately.

Please be advised of these other important points related to other celebrations:

- Funeral Masses and Baptisms can now be held, following all of the above protocols.
- There will be no regularly scheduled times for the Sacrament of Reconciliation at this time. If you would like to go to confession, call the parish office to make an appointment to meet one of the priests.