

**Although a dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass is still in effect, Bishop da Cunha wanted to make Mass available for those who would like to attend and receive Communion. However, the State of Massachusetts and the Diocese of Fall River have issued guidelines to be followed for the opening of churches. Please understand these are mandates, and we ask for your cooperation and patience.**

### **HERE'S WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU ATTEND MASS**

- Everyone must wear a mask that covers the nose and the mouth. The only exceptions are children under 2 and persons who have a medical reason for not wearing a mask. Putting a mask on children ages 2 to 6 will be at the parents' discretion.
- Everyone will enter by only one door--the handicapped entrance on the Damien Hall side of the church.
- One of the regulations is that the church can only be filled to 40% of its capacity. So, when you enter the church, a person will be there with a counter. *Unfortunately, once that capacity is reached, anyone arriving after will be asked to attend another Mass.*
- Inside the church the pews where you can sit are marked, as are the actual seats in the pews. You will be ushered to your seat.
- You must keep the mask on during and after Mass until you are outside again, obviously remembering social distancing.
- Of course, the Eucharist can only be received in the hand. The method to receive the Host is: pull down your mask and receive the Host in your hand, then step to the side to consume the Host and replace your mask. Communion will be distributed at the very end of Mass, and after receiving, you will leave the building.
- Only the cantor will sing the responses and hymns. Please do not sing.

We're sorry for how different attending Mass will be, but we have no choice. We are grateful, though, that we can worship together again--even under strange circumstances--and receive the Eucharist!