

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. - Romans 15:13

Bishop Parkes, diocesan staff and your parish staff extend a heartfelt thanks to you for your steadfast sacrifice and generosity during this challenging time. Your commitment to the Annual Pastoral Appeal is assisting us in continuing Christ's work throughout our diocese.

As you may have recently learned, after prayer and consultation with government and public health officials and our priests, Bishop Gregory Parkes granted permission to pastors throughout the Diocese of St. Petersburg to resume the public celebration of Sunday Masses at their discretion. Parishes are providing updated information on their websites. Each parish community is different, so all are asked to demonstrate charity, patience and kindness as processes and plans are developed.

We are called to be good stewards of our health and to take practical steps to avoid spreading illness. Space will be limited at Masses to allow for social distancing guidelines, masks are required, and all are asked to continue the practice of frequent sanitizing. Parishioners are asked to follow their parish's procedures when attending.

Please know that all Catholics remain dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass until further notice. Online Masses will continue to accommodate current space limitations and for those who may be at greater risk due to age, illness, or other health conditions. Please visit CatholicMassOnline.org for more information.



As we rejoice in the resumption of our public gatherings for Sunday Mass and as we continue to celebrate Pentecost, let us give thanks to God who sent the Holy Spirit upon us with grace and gifts to share of wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord, to stand strong in our faith and courageously live the Gospel.

Come Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.

And You shall renew the face of the earth.

*O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful,
grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations,
Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.*



COURAGEOUSLY
Living the Gospel