

June 22, 2021

Dear Parishioners of O.L.P.H.,

Summer greetings to you and your families!

Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio has authorized the full opening of the churches of the Diocese according to the indications of the Center for Disease Control (www.CDC.gov). So, I am happy to inform you of the following **NEW PROTOCOLS IN OLPH**:

- OLPH church is now open to 100% capacity.
- Because not everyone is vaccinated, please wear a mask in church.
- Social distancing is required for those who are not vaccinated.
- Hand sanitizing is required.
- Please receive Holy Communion in the hand.
- The church is being sanitized at least once a day.

Many of the restrictions in place due to the pandemic have been lifted. So, at the celebration of the Mass:

- The priest and ministers enter and leave in procession;
- Altar servers are assisting the celebrant;
- Bulletins are distributed as parishioners leave church;
- Missalettes and hymnals will soon be available;
- The sign of peace continues without personal contact except among family members;
- Ministers of Holy Communion are bringing the Eucharist to the homebound;
- For now, holy water fonts remain empty.

Approximately 50% of our parishioners are participating in Sunday Mass each week. Many others continue participating through the Masses that are streamed via internet on Facebook (OLPH Brooklyn or Charles McDonald) or the parish webpage (www.olphbkny.org). I INVITE ALL PARISHIONERS OF OLPH TO RETURN TO SUNDAY MASS. We have observed all the protocols for safety in church and continue to be diligent for the health of all.

The schedule of Masses is as follows:

- English Masses: Saturday at 5 p.m., Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. in the lower church.
- Spanish Masses: Saturday at 7 p.m. in the lower church; Sunday at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. in the upper church.
- Chinese Mass: Sunday at 11:45 a.m. in the lower church.
- Vietnamese Mass: Sunday at 2 p.m. in the lower church.

We pray for the healing and health of those who are affected by Covid and their families. We continue to pray for those who have died victims of the virus and for their families.

May Mary, our Mother of Perpetual Help, bless and protect all parishioners of OLPH!

Fr. James Gilmour, C.Ss.R.
Pastor