

Sacred Heart-St. Joseph Parish
227 S.W. VanBuren Street
Topeka, Kansas 66603
785-232-2863
J.M.J.



May 14th, 2021

Dear Parishioners,

Hello from your Pastor! I have truly missed you so much, but I look forward now to the opportunity for us to begin coming together again as one parish family to celebrate our faith in worship and enjoy fellowship with one another. It is a blessing to see the steady rise in attendance at our masses and to see once again so many familiar faces. I believe now is the time for all to prayerfully consider returning back to “in person” attendance in the pews of our two beautiful Churches that make up our parish.

On March 25th the priests of the Archdiocese met with Archbishop Naumann by way of Zoom on the computer. A discussion was held in regards to the lifting of the dispensation of the obligation to attend mass. From this meeting the Archbishop has decided that the weekend of June 5th and 6th, 2021 (The Feast of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ -Corpus Christi) as the occasion on which the dispensation from the obligation by the faithful to attend Mass shall be lifted. Beginning with Masses for that weekend, all the Catholic faithful residing within the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas must return to observing the precept of the Church to attend Mass on Sunday and Holy Days of Obligation. Of course, those who suffer from underlying health concerns or compromised immunity, or who have genuinely serious concerns about the risk of contracting the coronavirus are not bound by the obligation to attend Mass. I encourage all to return to participation of this great opportunity to come together to worship again as a parish family.

To commemorate those who have died from the coronavirus, those who have suffered in any way from the coronavirus, and those who have recovered from the coronavirus, we will have a special prayer box in both of our Churches in which you may write their names and we will remember them at all our masses in the month of June. A special candle will be lit with this intention.

Since many of us have not been able to keep in touch or see each other during the Pandemic, we are offering another opportunity for us to come together and do some catching up by providing a free hotdog and brats social in the parking lot of Sacred Heart Church on Saturday, June 5th immediately following the 4p.m. Mass. This will be part of our “Welcoming Back” initiative and I hope many of you will put it down on your calendars and participate. **Please bring your lawn chairs to sit outside.**

In addition, beginning the weekend of June 5th and 6th the Sacrament of Confession will take place on Saturdays from 3:15p.m. until 3:50p.m. at Sacred Heart Church and on Sundays from 7:15a.m. until 7:50a.m. at St. Joseph Church. Both will take place by using the confessionals. With this change, there will no longer be Confessions on Wednesday evenings as is our current practice.

Finally, in regards to reopening the Eucharistic Adoration Chapel at St. Joseph Church, Jana Barnes, our new Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Coordinator, will be working on a plan to reopen the Chapel in the near future. We appreciate your support and patience in this matter until an appropriate plan is in place based on the number of adorers available.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Fr. Tim Haberkorn'.

Fr. Tim Haberkorn