



DIOCESE of
TRENTON

**BISHOP O'CONNELL ANNOUNCES NEW DIRECTIVES
FOR MASS AND SACRAMENTS**

Liturgical-Pastoral Directives in a Time of Pandemic

DIOCESAN ADVISORY

Media reports have indicated significant spikes in coronavirus cases in 21 states that have re-opened or relaxed restrictions. As we approach the first weekend of public, in-church Masses, I remind the Diocese of our directions, lest there be any confusion:

- 1. COVID-19 is still extremely contagious, especially indoors or in closed settings;**
- 2. The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday/Holy Day Masses remains in effect so that all Catholic faithful, in good conscience, are not required to be physically present in church; live-streamed Masses will continue in most parishes;**
- 3. Anyone who is sick or at risk should not come to church; that is not punitive but, rather, common sense and an act of charity toward your neighbors;**
- 4. All parishes are expected to abide by occupancy and other regulations of the Diocese with care;**
- 5. Masks must be worn (no exceptions), physical contact of any kind must be avoided, social distancing must be practiced, proper sanitation must be observed at all public, in church Masses;**
- 6. Before attending public, in church Masses, the Catholic faithful are asked to consider any possible health and safety risks involved.**

**SEE LIST OF COMPLETE DIRECTIVES ON OUR PARISH WEB SITE
AT WWW.HOLYFAMILY.US CLICK ON THE BAR
"COVID-19 UPDATES."**