

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

I hear from so many of you sharing the same sentiment and expressing your desire to return to church for Mass.

*By now you might have seen Bishop Caggiano's announcement permitting an outdoor Mass (beginning tomorrow, on Ascension Thursday), with a maximum of 50 participants who would stay in their cars or alternatively be seated in chairs on the parking lot 6 feet from each other, observing all other safety measures, i.e. wearing masks and/or gloves, etc. This is the **first and optional phase** of a gradual church reopening.*

*At the same time the Bishop has expressed his hope, I believe shared by all of us, of a closely followed **phase two**, which will allow us to **gather for Mass in church again**. Because **phase one** presents logistical, weather related, and other challenges, here at St. Paul we are focusing on **phase two**. I will certainly inform you of it as soon as I know the date.*

*In the meantime, please know that **the church will be open for private prayer and adoration on Ascension Thursday (May 21), and Sundays from 12 Noon to 5 PM. The only open entrance will be through the rotunda (where the Pieta is), on the Rectory side.***

Please know that our Parish Office hours are Monday – Thursday from 9 AM – 5 PM. While our dedicated Parish Staff continues to work remotely, they can be reached via voicemail and email. Feel free to let us know if there is anything we can assist you with, or answer any questions you may have.

Thank you so much for your patience and dedication to our Parish, and for your continued support and generosity during these difficult times.

Through the intercession of Our Lady to whom this month is dedicated may God continue to watch over you, bless you and protect you +

With gratitude and prayers,

Fr. Les