



## *Blessed Trinity Parish*

300 East Tallmadge Avenue  
Akron, Ohio 44310

May 19, 2020

Greetings to the Parishioners of Blessed Trinity Parish!

As you are already aware, the Cleveland Diocese is beginning Monday May 25<sup>th</sup> with a 'soft opening' by allowing the public celebration of weekday Masses. This is being done to prepare for our public celebration of the Solemnity of Pentecost (May 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>).

While there is much to celebrate in the re-opening of our public liturgies, the possibility of **contagion** of the coronavirus **remains**. Know that Blessed Trinity will incorporate social distancing, hand sanitizers, face coverings, disinfecting and other preventative measures surrounding our public celebrations of Mass.

However, science has proven that participation in public gatherings significantly increase the risk of contagion. This poses a serious threat to those most vulnerable. The CDC identifies those at **high risk** for severe illness from the coronavirus as being:

- People 65 years and older
- People of all ages with underlying medical conditions (i.e. chronic, lung disease, severe asthma, diabetes, chronic kidney/liver disease, serious heart conditions, etc.)
- People who live with an imuno-compromised condition

To all of our parishioners who fall in the above **high risk** group, as your pastor and spiritual father, I **request** and **strongly encourage** you and your care-givers **to refrain** from coming to our public celebrations of Eucharist at this time.

I pray for your continued patience and perseverance and ask you look to the weekend of June 20-21 when our nation will be celebrating Father's Day. At this future time we will have more information and will be in a better position to evaluate the safety of those in the **high risk** group and their return to our public celebrations of Mass.

Please keep me in your prayers and know that the parishioners of Blessed Trinity Parish remain in my prayers. May we turn to the Lord and pray for the discernment, compassion, and faith to make the right decisions for our Church at this time. Of this I am certain: even though we may not be physically present with each other, the Holy Spirit will keep us united!

In Christ's love,

Reverend Joseph A. Warner, Pastor