



Immaculate Conception Catholic Church
833 West Sixth Street, Laurel, MS 39440
(601) 426-3473

Fr. Ignacio Jiménez Morales, Pastor
Fr. Emmanuel Subarr, Parochial Vicar

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are coming back to public worship. The Diocese of Biloxi officially opened for public mass on May 23rd and 24th weekend but the Northern Deanery has a special situation in terms of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. So, we in the northern deanery will officially open for public celebration of mass on this weekend of May 30th and 31st. After a Deanery meeting with Bishop Kihneman on May 16th, followed up with a meeting between Fr Ignacio, Fr. Emmanuel, and Deacon Rich, we will be following these measures as phase one stipulations for public masses for ICC and St Bernadette.

1. If you do not feel well or have underlying health conditions, you are not to worry about coming to mass because the Sunday obligation is still suspended for you during this pandemic.
2. Social Distancing will remain at six feet and the pews will be marked accordingly.
3. The maximum capacity in the main church at ICC is 69 people.
4. We ask that everyone enter through the front door, except for those who need to use the ramp entrance.

5. These are mass times for May 30th/31st weekend of opening.
 Laurel –Saturday May 30th Mass –5pm (English), Mass – 7pm
 (Spanish)
 Sunday May 31st Mass – 9am (English), Mass – 4pm (Spanish)
 Waynesboro – Saturday May 30th mass – 6pm, Sunday May 31st Mass
 – 11:15am
6. You are required to let the secretary know if you are coming for May 30th/31st masses and let her also know which one you are attending. This is not a reservation but for our planning purposes only.
7. Overflow of attendants will be able to view streamline in the auditorium in the school building and receive communion as well.
8. Daily masses are still suspended except for Wednesday 6pm English mass and Thursday 7pm Spanish mass in the church.
9. It is highly recommended that masks be worn by everybody during mass except the priest celebrant who will only wear mask during distribution of communion. Masks will not be provided by the parish.
10. Communion will be given only in the body species. Priest celebrant will consecrate precious blood only enough for himself alone.
11. We humbly encourage everybody to receive communion in the hand. If for a grave reason you have to receive with the tongue, the priest celebrant will have to sanitize his hand after each distribution on the tongue.
12. Please refrain from hugging or shaking hands during the sign of peace during mass. I know we all might be excited to see each other again. Just a simple wave of hands or bow should be done for the sign of peace.
13. To ensure social distancing during communion, the floor will be marked six feet apart for communion line. Please do not move towards the person in front of you closer than six feet. When the priest or deacon faces the

congregation to distribute communion all those on his left row will receive communion first before all those on his right row. The communion line will be single line.

14. Do not consume your communion in front of the priest. After receiving your communion in the hand, move three steps from the priest to the marked spot before removing your mask to consume your communion.

15. All the reading and music books and other materials will be removed from the church. Please do not leave any material in the church. Church doors, pews and altar chairs and tables will be sanitized after each mass.

Dear brothers and sisters, we are all happy that you are coming back to church after such a long break. Please if you have further questions and concerns, please do not hesitate to call the office of Immaculate Conception or St. Bernadette.