

**December 19, 2020**

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Joseph,

This week begins the 4<sup>th</sup> week of Advent – what a blessed time we are in.

Once again, I strongly encourage you all back to Mass. Our parish is extremely safe, and it is vital for you to receive a **Sacramental Communion**. Our parish ensures that all parishioners wear masks, sanitize their hands and the pews are wiped down between Masses. If you have returned to work, school, and shopping, I strongly urge you back to Mass.

**The Weekend Masses are – Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm and 6:30pm. Daily Masses are held Monday to Saturday at 9:00am. Holy Hour takes place Monday to Thursday at 3:00pm, Fridays at 12:00pm, Saturdays at 9:30am.**

The Sunday Mass will continue to be live streamed for parishioners at 10:30am for those who are sick, homebound and for those who do not feel ready to leave their homes yet.

Other important updates:

1. I would like to remind everyone that if you are sick or have come into contact with anyone who might feel they have COVID symptoms of any kind, please do NOT come to Church. I encourage you to get a COVID test and until you get a negative result – please stay home and do not place yourself, among others. This is especially true of those who are living with those who are showing COVID symptoms – this virus is very contagious – kindly do not expose the parish, and others to the potential of spread.

2. There have been rumours of an expected government lockdown that may be announced on Monday afternoon. I remind you all that you should attend Mass this weekend (as every weekend) to receive Jesus in Holy Communion, especially before the celebration of the Lord's birth, in case this becomes true. **As of today, we are still allowed to open under 30% capacity.** Also, as indicated in the card sent to all households in Grimsby, **in case of a lockdown the Masses will be livestreamed only at the prescribed times.** If anything changes, I will send another Parishioner Update to you. You are encouraged to also bring your Christmas donation along with your 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent donation and drop them in the parish collection boxes in the foyer this weekend. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

3. **We will now be required to do contact tracing at all Masses. As you enter the Church, you will now be asked to sign in with the greeter.** The quickest way is to give your **envelope number**, otherwise you will be asked your full name and phone number. This must be done for all entering the Church for the foreseeable future. Thank you for your understanding.

4. As was mentioned in last week's update - the last celebration of Reconciliation before Christmas will take place this afternoon from 3:00-4:00pm following the Wedding this afternoon.

5. **Christmas Masses will need to proceed differently than we are used to. Everyone who wishes to attend a Christmas Mass – MUST REGISTER – through the parish website [www.stjosephgrimsby.ca](http://www.stjosephgrimsby.ca).** If you have not registered for Christmas Masses, you will not be permitted to enter because we will need to adhere to the 30% capacity.

**Please remember to bring your PRINTED ticket from Home to Mass with you and note that it will be assigned seating. You are to wait until the parish Hospitality Minister directs you to your assigned seat. Thank you for your understanding.**

6. Once again, a reminder that Children's Liturgy & Little Spirits has gone digital. Check out the parish website or the parish YouTube channel for the links to videos to enhance faith at home for our young children.

7. If your son or daughter attends Public or Private school and is in need of receiving the Sacraments this year, please contact the parish office. Classes will begin in the new year. Samantha Pellegrino, our parish Catechist will be leading these sessions with the youth of our parish.

8. Our first ALPHA session has completed with great success! I would like to thank Jody, our Evangelization Minister as well as Andrew, our Youth Minister – and the other Alpha small group leaders for a very spiritually enriching and powerful experience.

If you did not participate in this first ALPHA session - we invite you for the next Catholic ALPHA weekly sessions on Wednesday evenings beginning January 20<sup>th</sup> running through March 31<sup>st</sup>. To register visit the parish website – click on "Get Involved" and scroll to the bottom. Join us for ALPHA – it is a game changer!

9. Please continue to remember the parish regarding financial giving. We rely on your weekly contributions to sustain and build the kingdom of God in our parish. You can drop your offerings off in the boxes following Mass this weekend, drop it off in the outside mailbox, bring it to the parish office all week, or through the e-transfer option – [myparishgift@gmail.com](mailto:myparishgift@gmail.com). Thank you in advance to those families who continue to sustain our parish through their contributions.

10. You will notice that heat has returned to our parish as we installed the new Heating and Air Conditioning units this week (with final tweaks to take place this week). **This project will cost the parish \$120,000** and your generosity is required to meet these costs. Thank you to those who have already stepped up and made donations – to date, we have **currently raised \$16,610 towards the total**. I am asking all parishioners to contribute significantly to this project since we all expect a warm church in the winter and cool church in the summer months. The old units, original to this church building, lasted us 25 years – and for those of us who are homeowners, we know that we certainly 'soaked' every ounce of life out of them. As you make your contribution, please

write “**HEATING / AIR**” on the front of your envelope or in the memo line of an e-transfer ([myparishgift@gmail.com](mailto:myparishgift@gmail.com)) and those funds will be counted towards your tax receipt for the end of the year. Special envelopes will be available to pick up for this project next weekend. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

11. 2021 envelopes are available for pickup in the foyer of the Church. Please pick up your envelopes for the new year which begins the end of November.

12. The Knights of Columbus are continuing to accept winter coats to share with those most in need. If you would like to donate some coats, please leave them at the parish office or in the boxes found in the foyer of the Church.

13. The parish website continues to help so many – visit [www.stjosephgrimsby.ca](http://www.stjosephgrimsby.ca) – and our social media accounts to help enhance your faith. Also please continue to look at the parish YouTube channel for daily updates.

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/StJoesGrimsby/>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/stjoesgrimsby/>

Twitter - <https://twitter.com/stjoesgrimsby>

The parish YouTube channel once again is

- [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX5\\_TJMB7GpOw6M0LV8t9pw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCX5_TJMB7GpOw6M0LV8t9pw)

14. The parish Bible Study – God Talk - continues with its **next session on Tuesday December 22 at 7:00pm**. We will be studying Joel Chapters 1-4 and Amos Chapter 1. Click on the link below and join as you are encouraged to deepen your relationship with God and the study of the scriptures. If you need help setting this up – contact the parish office.

Fr-Rico Passero is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Fr. Rico Passero God Talk Meeting

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82763215683?pwd=TnFENVhveEF5VktKem1NMDVMldzQT09>

Meeting ID: 827 6321 5683

Password: GodTalk

15. Baptisms continue to be celebrated. If you wish to have your son or daughter baptized, please contact the parish office.

16. I continue to invite you all to utilize the FORMED.org platform. Again, free to all parishioners, there are NUMEROUS resources for you to check out as an individual

and as a family. Free to all parishioners. I have again included the instructions to enroll here:

To log onto FORMED (again FREE to all parishioners)

- Visit [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)
- Click Sign up
- Click – I belong to a parish or organization
- Type St Joseph Grimsby – in the “find your parish or organization” box and click on our parish name once it populates
- Click Next
- Add your name and email address – then click sign up
- Enjoy FORMED

17. This is the St. Joseph Schedule for the week ahead. Note that Daily Masses again can be attended in person as well as the Daily Holy Hour (Eucharistic Adoration, Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, and private prayer) and will also continue to be streamed LIVE along with a daily holy hour (except for Sundays)

**Saturday Dec 19 –**

**Mass – 9:00am**

Holy Hour – 9:30-10:30am

Confessions – St. Nicholas Room – 3:00pm to 4:30pm

**Mass – 5:00pm in Church**

**Sunday Dec 20<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

**Masses in Church – 8:30am, 10:30am, 12:30pm and 6:30pm**

**(Live Stream Mass – 10:30am)**

**Monday Dec 21**

Mass – 9:00am

Holy Hour – 3:00pm

**Tuesday Dec 22**

Mass – 9:00am

Holy Hour – 3:00pm

**Wednesday Dec 23**

Mass – 9:00am

Holy Hour (Worship Wednesday) - 3:00pm

**Thursday Dec 24**

Mass – 9:00am (Thursday of the 4<sup>th</sup> Week of Advent) (NOT a Christmas Mass)

**Christmas Eve Masses (only to be attended by those who have registered and brought tickets with them to Church)**

**12:00pm**

**3:00pm**

**5:00pm**

**8:00pm**

**12 midnight**

**Christmas Day**

**8:30am**

**10:30am**

**12:30pm**

**Saturday Dec 26**

**9:00am**

**10:30am**

**(Note there is no Holy Hour following 9:00am Mass)**

**Feast of the Holy Family**

**Dec 26**

**Confessions – 3:00pm to 4:00pm**

**Mass 5:00pm**

If you have any pastoral needs, please email, or call the parish.

You remain in my daily prayers – please pray for me and for each other.  
St. Joseph – pray for us. Mary, Mother of the Church – pray for us.

**COME LORD JESUS!**

God bless, Fr. Rico