

PASTOR'S UPDATE TO PARISHIONERS – U (5/22/20)

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- THIA WEEKEND'S MASS – SOLEMNITY OF ASCENSION

PASTORAL MESSAGE TO PARISHIONERS FROM FR. FERGUSON

Greetings in the Lord.

Today's "UPDATE – U" is very brief since there are only a couple of new items this time: Mass preparations for a special Solemnity; and Bishop Brennan has just sent a **Novena of the Holy Spirit** for us to use to prepare for Pentecost and the "re-opening" of public worship. **That Novena is attached.**

Reminder: If you haven't done so already, please read the IMPORTANT URGENT ITEMS FROM BISHOP BRENNAN from the last Update (T) regarding the "re-opening" of parishes in light of COVID concerns. Please read these items carefully, including my comments on **how we will be implementing things locally.**

I have been working with our staff and volunteers the past several days already to begin to get things ready for the re-opening of public Masses on May 30/31. Lots of activity, and I thank those who have expressed a willingness to help. In the next Update, I will include a **consolidated list of practical logistics** to be aware of and what to expect, if and when you come on-site for public Masses.

Remember that we have **Social-Distanced Confessions** available **by appointment**; please see the attachment on the parish websites that give the details. For appointments, please call 419-634-2626 and leave a message. The upcoming blocks of time are as follows: Sunday 24 May from 4-6 at ADA; and then Wednesday 27 May from 4-6 at KENTON. (The following week, the locations will "rotate" for the Sunday and Wednesday.)

Ada: Thanks to those who helped support the Eagle Scout Project; most of the statues have been installed. We will likely have some sort of blessing of the Youth Saint Walk after things re-open.

Kenton: Don't forget your T-Shirt orders to help the local poor!

Please keep our 11 Confirmation students in your prayers; they are proceeding with their Confirmation on Tuesday June 2, and I have been spending the past few days doing individual interviews with them (via Zoom) to encourage them in their spiritual life. They are a great group of young disciples; as they begin their teenage years and go deeper in their relationship with the Lord as they get older – with increasing challenges and temptations – let's pray for their spiritual protection as they commit to deeper personal holiness in preparation for the joys of Heaven!

Finally, as a reminder, please keep making use of the **various Spiritual/Catechetical Opportunities** we've shared the last few weeks (see Update J).

Thanks for everyone's ongoing support! As I said last week, the following few weeks will be challenging, but together we will get through it with the grace of our Risen Good Shepherd!

Our Mother Mary, Patron of our Hardin County Parishes, Pray for Us.

- Fr. Bill Ferguson, Pastor
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THIS WEEKEND'S MASS – SOLEMNITY OF ASCENSION

This coming Sunday's Mass will be the Solemnity of the Ascension of Jesus, and will be livestreamed on our YouTube channel. **To view this Mass**, please use the same YouTube link you have already been using for the Sunday Masses: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVxcsTyz-ukNpEDHVkQWKVw>

BTW – The Solemnity of Ascension is observed in some parts of the world on Thursday (yesterday)/ However, some 'ecclesiastical provinces' (such as the Province of Cincinnati, which our Diocese is part of, and most other ecclesiastical provinces in the United States) have transferred Ascension to the following Sunday. Hence, that's why we will celebrate it this Sunday.

A **Worship Aid** for this Mass is attached here.

Also attached is the **bulletin for this weekend** from Dee Printing. Daily Mass readings for this week are included in that bulletin.