

November 18, 2020

My Dear Parishioners:

The Christmas Eve masses as noted are 5:00pm, 7:00pm and 9:00pm. Christmas Day times are 8:30am and 10:30am. They are all filled now in the church with space still available in the hall. Please contact the parish office to register.

Earlier this week I sent out a reminder that masks are highly recommend to be worn in the church at the masses. A follow up email went out with some clarification. It reinforced our Chief Provincial Medical Health Officers encouraging us to wear masks in indoor spaces. Bishop Gary has said in the October 19th revised directives of taking responsibility of protecting oneself and others with safety measures like wearing masks, sanitizing, washing one's hands and social distancing.

We know that provincially, the number of COVID cases are rising on the Island; our local area too. These are challenging times and anxiety, stress levels, fears, and so forth are rising with parishioners and people in general. I mention this for Rosemary is receiving calls in the office expressing these frustrations. Especially related to wearing masks, protocols related to the virus, mass in the church versus the hall and challenges of Christmas. We have heard the phrase COVID fatigue and presently I think it is on the rise. I have seen this with family members and parishioners, and in the wider community. We are feeling this in the office too; and I say this for there is a lot that goes on every day in the office. Please be considerate when you speak to one another and when you speak to Rosemary in the office whether in person or on the phone. She has a challenging job in many ways and does not need these added pressures.

One of our parishioners' who is so good in letting us know when someone is in need of prayers for whatever their challenges they have; herself had an accident and is at home recovering from a back injury. I am speaking of Tina Hanlon, who

Church of the Ascension

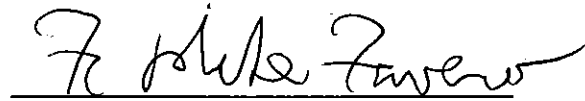
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hurt her back after a fall. Let us remember Tina in our prayers as she is recovering in discomfort at home from her injury.

Next week, Rosemary will be on vacation for two days; Office hours Monday, November 23rd, 9:00am to Noon. Tuesday the office will be closed.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Fr. Mike Zaver". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Fr. Mike