



Churches of St. Bede & St. Peter

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May 15, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

Unfortunately, a few more regulations have come from the Archdiocese that impacts the opening of our churches. Parishes with multiple worship sites (like Our Lady of the Lakes) will not be allowed to have both churches open for Phase 1+2. We are only allowed to have one church open for now. Personally, I do not agree with the Archdiocese in this regard, but they are being extra cautious, and I must comply. I believe opening only one worship site brings out a separation in our parish, however, the Archdiocese believes that we are one parish and that it should not matter which site is open. I do not think those in charge are being very considerate to the feelings of parishioners in this matter, but they insist on taking one step at a time. Therefore, I must ask for more of your patience regarding the situation. The best I can do is promise that I will have both sites open as soon as possible.

Again, the Archdiocese has put this restriction upon me and has demanded that I make the choice that is the most logical. After weighing several factors, I have decided that we must begin by opening St. Peter Church. St. Peter is the larger of the two church buildings, and this makes social distancing easier (the Archdiocesan Guidelines would consider this an important fact). The presence of a large elevator and the fact that we have a professional cleaning crew available to clean the church are also factors that I had to take into account.

I know that some of you may be disappointed in my decision, but I hope and pray that you understand the dilemma I am facing. You, the faithful, have been very patient, supportive, and understanding throughout this whole health crisis. I do feel bad asking for more patience, support and understanding, but I am hopeful that your great faith will continue to unite and strengthen our parish. Again, as soon as it is possible, I will have both our beautiful churches open. We are Our Lady of the Lakes Parish. We have two wonderful churches, and I cannot wait to celebrate with you again in both of our beautiful places of worship.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. George