

SUSPENSION OF INDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES AT MSP

We have received confirmation from the Diocese of Maryland about suspending indoor worship. Beginning immediately and at least until Saturday, November 28 we will not be permitted to have indoor worship, which for us includes the Sunday morning services and the healing service on Wednesday morning.

Please note these relevant points:

- We will continue to live stream one Sunday morning Eucharist service at 8:30 am from Smith Hall. This can be seen live on Facebook and later on YouTube. (Father Nathan and a skeleton crew needed for the service to happen will be present in Smith Hall).
- Sunday School and Confirmation class will be back on zoom. Contact Anne Hayes for more information. <mailto:mspyouthleader@middlehamandstpeters.org> 443-624-6959
- Outreach activities may continue with masks and social distancing in place. Contact Jim Yoe for more information. <mailto:jimyoe@comcast.net> 443-975-6797
- The decision to return to indoor worship as early as Sunday, November 29 will be made by the Diocese by Monday, November 23. We will monitor this update and inform the congregation.
- The Diocesan decision to suspend indoor worship is based on the increase in number of COVID-19 cases in Maryland. Every county in our diocese has shown an increase in COVID rates this past week. (The 7-day average for Calvert County was 10.19; a week ago it was 7.1. Calvert's rate is lower than any other county in the Diocese except Carroll County.) See the actual message from the Diocese by clicking this link.
- Given the expected travel and family gatherings that may take place for Thanksgiving, this increase is likely to continue. In fact, it is entirely possible that these restrictions will continue through Christmas unless the positivity rate, case rate, and hospital bed use reduce significantly and stay down for at least two weeks.
- We will continue to monitor the communication from the Diocese and comply with their decision regarding indoor worship.
- Other worship opportunities will continue virtually and the information to attend these sessions can be found in this weekly and on our website (middlehamandstpeters.org) as they are every week. This includes Wednesday

Night Prayer at 7:00 pm, Morning Prayer on Fridays at 7:00 am, Sunday Eucharist from the Cathedral of the incarnation, Baltimore at 11:00 am, Sunday Eucharist Service at the National Cathedral, Washington, D.C. at 12:00 pm and Thirsty Theology on Friday at 7:00pm.

As we all continue to deal with these constant changes and uncertain times, please know that we at Middleham and St. Peter's Parish are always here for each other. If you have any Pastoral Care needs please don't hesitate to contact Father Nathan. If you have any questions or concerns please let us know. We appreciate your patience and cooperation in maintaining the safety and health of the people in this parish and our larger community.

Wear a mask!

Wash your hands!

Stay safe!

Stay healthy!

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11/13/2020