***Open Doors:***

***The Path Toward Resuming***

***Public Worship at St. Mary's***

**POSTPONEMENT OF "REOPENING"**

As a result of the recent spike in the Corona virus cases in Chappaqua and in many parts of the country, and after consultation, and out of an abundance of care and caution, we have decided to postpone our reopening of in-person services.

God willing, and failing any further unforeseen circumstance, the intention now is to have the first service at the outside altar on July 19, at 10.00 am, following all the important safety guidelines as previously communicated.

Please know that services will continue to be broadcast indefinitely on Sundays at 10.00 am, Mondays at 9.30 am and Wednesdays at noon.

While I, like many, are keen to worship together again, it is I believe prudent, necessary, and important that we take care of each other now by being careful in our behavior as we follow all the necessary guidelines in order to keep us safe and healthy.

I am starkly aware that this has been a challenging time for many of us, yet I am also cognizant of the grave responsibility we have to care for one another.

As always, be assured of my daily prayers, and I humbly ask for yours.

Blessings of wholeness and peace,

*Fr. Alan*

**Starting on Sunday July 19,**

**public worship will resume at Saint Mary's**

**See the latest letter from Bishop Dietsche[,](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Xoc8LfzbKVCJ8LQwY6nm4VDGUe-rLYt2q-rd83jnZfKinZbECci4nr4HTTgYLxkhUk-sponnYJz2AnCBBsg5PjXkQECoWOuZAurVvuB7tf3b5B25PhxtxqhIi78kubHxRUhkjgBgeUKof2VFsjyBLTr1S70mJ7-DtjZGSx4mD8faKCWR9h_SGBNr1sJE4MuxybtQnmrasdriWJbo9-J2sF7BvIkfExmYc1B8L_iSO9gdnoLbZbNEJdMQ0afa6RyF&c=jep1jYOKcsedFqyp2VGYvo9CQQkLhq0CWJWN37Rvevwh5t0QntaX1g==&ch=waDkYRrZviPiGXhwhNkWxqlOQ5iqHQMD9N48Ht3062iBrSpkOXaFXQ==" \t "_blank)**[**here**](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001Xoc8LfzbKVCJ8LQwY6nm4VDGUe-rLYt2q-rd83jnZfKinZbECci4nlzMRvwvU3ey1B9F9ZWNX0xg7MRW59Pit3Z29ccUx7ywXzipS6QWXCMHct2vSvkeWDM_nHv_p2tJP7xFLdbh2MO1c0slGI8gUukhRpD1KnJKmVuRoF8Uc2dRsk8-ZXMZbjimkcs3NK4AQ2F4d3_ygma3Dcul4SloRNg3-msSUZyapwWZ8ff45IH7u2Kl1bKw6sCKMHTJx38MSJ0oMdF4lJg_R1JyaYdo__tVzkTXTcv6&c=jep1jYOKcsedFqyp2VGYvo9CQQkLhq0CWJWN37Rvevwh5t0QntaX1g==&ch=waDkYRrZviPiGXhwhNkWxqlOQ5iqHQMD9N48Ht3062iBrSpkOXaFXQ==)**.**

Following the guidelines of the Bishop of the Diocese of New York, we will resume by celebrating the Holy Eucharist at the outside altar, weather permitting.

Bishop Dietsche has expressed his concern and care about reopening too soon, and that he wants all to know that he supports our decisions. He has reminded us that we are taking **first steps not final steps**, encouraging us to do it cautiously, conservatively, and carefully, and that we are not returning to normal worship. We are beginning worship with restrictions.

We invite you to take note of the following practical arrangements

* Mass at the outside altar on July 19, weather permitting
* If raining, we will do the usual audio broadcast via [spreaker.com](http://spreaker.com)
* Wearing masks at all times
* Sanitizing hands before services, during, before receiving communion and when leaving; please bring your hand sanitizer along with you
* Always keep safe distancing
* Please bring your own chairs along
* No coffee hour, for the time being
* The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated; the people receiving in one kind only (the host)
* Details of receiving communion will be explained at the time of celebration
* Mass at the outside altar behind the church on July 26 at 10.00 am
* Morning Prayer at the outside altar/or in church on August 2, 9, 16,23,30 at 10:00am
* Mass in the church on September 6, at 10.00 am
* Details of post Labor Day arrangements will follow in due course
* Live podcasts of the services will also be broadcast during July and August. And beyond, as may be prudent

**The church building will be regularly disinfected**

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