

Saint Patrick's Church

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St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi Parish

Serving Church Communities of

St. Catherine of Siena, St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata, St. Patrick's, St. Theresa's

May 15, 2020

Dear brothers and sisters,

I hope you are all doing well in this challenging time of social distancing.

It has been quite a while since we had the opportunity to gather together in the church, and I believe that we all miss it and look forward to the day when we will be able to be back together.

Looking forward to that time, I would like to share with you the results of the work that I have been doing with the executive pastoral team of St. Patrick's about the implementation of the change of the mass time in our community of St Patrick's.

As maybe you remember, last year we circulated a survey to hear from you about what you thought could be the best time for us to have mass celebrated. The vast majority of you expressed a preference for a 9.30 am mass time. With this in mind, we had several discussions, these past few months, to find out what would be the best way to make the change work, especially considering the totally new situation that we are facing with the Covid-19 emergency.

Our conclusion is that the best way forward is to implement now the change of our mass to be celebrated at 9.30 am, as at this moment we are not attending church. In this way, we will avoid starting to celebrate mass – hopefully soon – at the usual time, and then needing to make the change. This will allow people to make only one adjustment to their schedule, when the church re-opens.

With this process hopefully the change of the mass time will be an easier and more gentle transition. In fact, my desire and the desire of the executive pastoral team is to guarantee that we will continue to journey as peacefully as possible, as a community of faith.

I cannot wait to be together again celebrating the Eucharist. I look forward to that day and also for the new mass time, as it will give me the opportunity to be more present with you.

In the meantime, please be assured of my prayer, and keep me in yours, that we may all be safe and strong in our faith.

May the Lord bless you and keep you,

Fr Francesco