

Updated Worship Safe Guidelines

By Bishop Daniel Miehm

1. Physical distancing of two metres (six feet) remains the requirement for attendance in church and parish facilities, including seating, however, groups of people from the same household may be seated together.
2. Wearing a face mask remains required. Masks should be fitted properly to the face.
3. Cleaning procedures for pews, washrooms, confessionals, reconciliation rooms are relaxed so as to require only regular cleaning in accordance with pre-Covid-19 routines, with the only exception being when someone with suspected or known Covid-19 has attended, in which case the space should be disinfected as per the pandemic manual requirements.
4. Churches should be well ventilated when possible. This will vary according to the space but it should be treated with importance. Ventilation may involve opening windows and utilising fans to exhaust air from the sanctuary. Fan placement is important and will vary upon room configuration. Avoid placing fans in areas where they may impede access or cause contaminated air to flow from one person to another.
5. Missals and prayer books may be replaced in pews.
6. Hymn books will not be replaced as the earlier restrictions on singing continue.
7. Bulletins, envelopes, pamphlets, and newspapers may again be distributed as per pre-COVID-19 practices.
8. Votive light stands may be re-opened, subject to notices requiring appropriate distancing of two metres (six feet).
9. The preference continues that confessions should be heard outside of the Confessional to allow for proper distancing, cleaning and contact tracing (if it becomes necessary). Where Confessionals are used, both priest and confessor will be required to wear masks. Priests should employ double masking or the use of the N95 mask so as to further lower the risk of contamination.
10. Collections may again be taken up using baskets in the traditional fashion.
11. All Ushers involved in taking up collection should ensure that they wear masks while undertaking this task and use a collection basket with a long handle to maintain the two metres (sixfeet) distancing.
12. Hand Sanitizing – It is no longer necessary for all entering a church to use hand sanitizer, though churches are encouraged to provide hand-sanitizers should people wish to use it. The priests and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion should continue to use hand-sanitizer.
13. Altar servers may be utilized again, as long as they maintain the two metres (six feet) distance between each other and the priest. Altar servers and the priest need to wear face masks when distance cannot be maintained. Altar servers from the same household do not need to maintain physical distancing. Deacons may return to their ministry at the altar while observing all relevant health precaution.
14. Communion procedures are unchanged despite the lessening of restrictions in other areas. Both the person distributing communion and the communicant must be fully masked. Once the communicant receives the host, they are to move two metres (six feet) away, safely remove mask, consume host, replace mask, and then proceed back to the pew.

Holy Water fonts at the church doors are not reopened.

15.

OUR PARISH BULLETIN



**Our Lady of Mercy Church
Honey Harbour**



**St. John the Baptist Church
Port Severn**

Address:

**Our Lady of Mercy Parish
P.O. Box 126
2596 Honey Harbour Rd.
Honey Harbour, On P0E1E0**

**Fr. Martin Dalida – Parish Priest
Tel. 705 756 2311**

**Email: office@ladyofmercyhoneyharbour.ca
Website: <https://www.ladyofmercyhoneyharbour.ca/>**

Weekend Masses

**Sunday 9 A.M. - Port Severn
Sunday 11 A.M. - Honey Harbour**

**Weekday Masses
(See inside bulletin)**

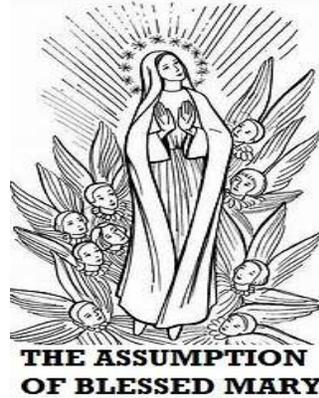
**Confession: 20 minutes before weekend Masses
Wedding and Baptism: Call the office**

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

August 15, 2021

Gospel Today: *Luke 1:39-56*- "Today's feast celebrates Mary's Assumption into heaven." The Gospel for this day reminds us that Mary's Assumption into heaven is best understood with regard for the full spectrum of Catholic beliefs about the person of Christ and the person of Mary. Only Mary, who was born without stain of original sin—the Immaculate Conception—could give birth to Christ. Because of Mary's role in God's plan of salvation, she does not suffer from the effects of sin, which are death and decay. Mary is the first to receive the fullness of the redemption that her son has won for all of humanity. The Church, therefore, recognizes Mary as the sign of the salvation promised to all."

"All generations shall call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me."



August 1, 2021 Sunday Collections



\$2,065 - Regular Sunday Offerings

Weekday Masses (Honey Harbour Chapel)

Wed August 18, 11am Mass- For sick in the parish

Thurs August 19, 11am Mass- For peace in the world

Friday August 20, 11am Mass – For health safety of Covid-19 frontliners

Weekend Masses – 21st Sunday Ordinary Time

Sunday August 22, 9am @ Port Severn

Sunday August 22, 11am @ Honey Harbour - For the people of the parish

How do people have hope in a time of uncertainty?

"Remember that God is in control! He is the Lord of history and Creator of everything which exists. There is nothing which escapes Him. Not a drop of rain falls nor a blade of grass buds without Him knowing it. His power and knowledge know no limit; and He has promised to use that omnipotence for us. The very nature of God is love. And love always seeks the good of the other. So God, who loves us, isn't even capable of doing evil to us. It's against His nature. All things work together for the good of those who love God (Romans 8:28). He is the Good Shepherd, our rock of refuge, a stronghold for us. Although we walk in the valley of darkness, he is at our side; so what have we to fear? Even in the worst case, if we were to catch this coronavirus and die, so what? Is not death just a return to the House of the Father? We did not come into this world to stay forever any more than a person goes to a skyscraper to ride the elevator. Sooner or later we will leave it and, by His grace, go back to Him who made us. So trust in Him and "do not fear him (or that) which can kill the body." (Matthew 10:28)"

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Feast Day August 15)– "The Catholic Church teaches as dogma that the Virgin Mary "having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory". This doctrine was dogmatically defined by Pope Pius XII on 1 November 1950, in the apostolic constitution *Munificentissimus Deus*. This is a belief in the Catholic Church that has its origin in the first few centuries of Christianity. The Assumption is an ancient celebration, one that honors the Virgin Mary and her role in salvation history and the eternal destination prepared for her by her Son, Jesus. We firmly believe that from the first moment of her conception Mary was free of all sin, including Original Sin, by a special favor of almighty God. Mary had been chosen to be the Mother of our savior. By the power of the Holy Spirit, she conceived our Lord Jesus Christ, and through her, true God became also man and dwelt among us. All these led the Church to conclude that because of her role as Mother of the Messiah, Mary would be preserved from original sin and its consequences. As such it would not be possible for Mary, whose womb carried the Son of God, to suffer the corruption of the body that all people experience after death. Mary's assumption reminds us that salvation is holistic. God does not just save half of us. He doesn't just pluck the soul out of the husk of a sinful body. We are saved in the fullness of our humanity, body and soul. "

Saint Maximilian Kolbe (Feast Day August 14) – "He was born on January 8, 1894, in Poland. St. Maximilian Kolbe's dedication to our Blessed Virgin Mary is said to be attributed to his mother who recited the Angelus, the Holy Rosary, and the Litany to Our Lady daily. After he was ordained priest, he founded monasteries in Poland and in both Japan and India. During World War II, he provided shelters for refugees and hid 2,000 Jews. After his monastery was shut down, he was arrested by the German Gestapo and taken to the Pawiak prison and eventually transferred to Auschwitz. During this time, St. Maximilian Kolbe was subjected to beatings and other ill-treatment. A fellow prisoner who had tried to escape and would be punished by starving to death, cried out he had a wife and children and St. Maximilian Kolbe volunteered and took his place. Out of the 10 who were selected to be starved to death in an underground bunker, St. Maximilian Kolbe was the last left alive after two weeks of starvation and dehydration. He was then killed by an injection of carbolic acid. Saint Maximilian Kolbe is a saint whose life was full of difficulties and sufferings, yet he continued to pursue and fulfill his vocation as a priest. He was devoted to our Blessed Virgin Mary throughout his entire life and even up until his horrific death. St. Maximilian Kolbe is the patron saint of families, prisoners, journalists, political prisoners, drug addicts and the pro-life movement. The Franciscans of the Immaculate's website for this inspiring saint explains that "only a saint can stand firm, with constancy and unwavering hope, throughout life's many difficulties and sufferings. Only a saint can influence others to do the same, because only a saint knows that true and perfect peace is found in God alone. For the saint, trials don't weaken, they fortify. Serenity and calmness amidst atrocities are not a sign of defeat but of victory, for love is greater than hatred!"