



Centre eucharistique et marial Spiri-Maria

626, route du Sanctuaire, Lac-Etchemin (Québec) CANADA G0R 1S0

Spiri-Maria, June 22, 2020

Re-Opening of the Chapel Spiri-Maria

Dear Knights of Mary,

As you know, the health authorities are permitting, as of today, the re-opening of places of worship with a maximum number of 50 persons present, including the priests and the faithful.

This measure of partial deconfinement implies that we have the obligation to respect the recommended measures of distancing, that is, two (2) meters of distance between persons as they move about in the chapel, and a meter and a half (1.5) of distance when persons are seated.

This also means that, in the chapel, the space of three empty chairs must be left between two persons sitting in the same row and, as well, an empty row of chairs must be left in front and behind every row occupied by persons present in the chapel.

With regard to the Eucharistic and Marian Center Spiri-Maria, please note that, as of **June 28, 2020**, it will be possible for you to participate at one or other of the three Sunday Masses which will be celebrated according to the following schedule: **8:00 a.m.**, **9:30 a.m.** (Mass followed by the Marian hour), and **2:30 p.m.**

In order to ensure that the participation at the different Masses respects the maximum number of persons allowed to participate in each celebration, please complete the attached coupon, indicating, by order of preference, the Mass time which would best suit you. This will help those in charge at Spiri-Maria to be better able to coordinate the assistance at each of the Sunday Masses, forming, if necessary, alternating groups, if too many people are registered for one or other of these Masses.

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With regard to Communion during Mass, and so as to respect the minimal distance required between persons, representations of the Eucharistic Symbol will be placed on the Communion rails as physical indicators showing people where they can place themselves to receive Communion, limiting the number of persons to three at a time at each Communion rail.

Moreover, in order to make it easier to move about in the chapel and to avoid that the persons receiving Communion and the priest are too close, we request that, for the duration of the pandemic, you not kneel, but remain standing next to the Communion rail and continue to receive Communion in the hand.

Concerning the wearing of a mask, even if it is not compulsory, let us remember that it is always recommended in public places and, if a mask is not worn, it is necessary to avoid all risk of spreading droplets of saliva which are potentially dangerous for ourselves and for others. That is why, both when moving about or when seated in the chapel, we must be vigilant, as much as possible, and avoid saying the Mass responses out loud and/or singing during Mass, except if the distance between persons enables one to do so in complete security.

With regard to weekday Masses, and the pre-festive Sunday Mass celebrated Saturday evening, as well as free adoration in the chapel, more information in this regard will be communicated to you shortly.

On behalf of the Directors of the Work and in my own name, I want to thank you in advance for your cooperation, so as to help us respect the orders issued by the health authorities in order to limit as much as possible the risks of infection linked to the coronavirus, from which we are not yet entirely freed during this period of continuing pandemic.

That is why, should anyone among us have any flu-like symptom, we would ask him or her not to come to the chapel during all the time it takes to be fully recovered as well as the period of quarantine, in order to avoid any risk of contaminating the other persons attending at Spiri-Maria.

It goes without saying that without this essential cooperation on the part of each and every one, we would be forced, regretfully, to close the chapel once again.

With regard to confessions, a half-hour before Mass, behind Spiri-Maria, it will be possible to go to confession from car to car by respecting the two-meter rule of distancing. However, we remind you that is also possible to do this at all times and **in the same manner** – that is from car to car, behind Spiri-Maria – by making an appointment ahead of time with the priest of your choice.

Thank you again for your kind attention and understanding. By working together to make an effort to respect these orders, not only are we contributing to protecting each one's health, but also and above all, we are bearing witness to the spirit of Her who, during her entire life of love, sought only to obey God, by also respecting the laws and directives of the civil authorities.

United in prayer, under the gaze and guidance of the Lady; with your families and all those who are dear to you, I bless you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Padre Jean-Pierre".

Padre Jean-Pierre