Pastoral Letter to the Parishioners of Holy Family, St Joseph and St Mary:

Christ is risen!

I want to convey some good news to all of you. Masses are going to be resumed this upcoming weekend (May 2nd-3rd) at the usual times. We will be honored to have with us a transitional deacon, Dcn. Joseph Moreno.

There are some things in place that you do need to know about before attending Mass:

1) The obligation to attend Mass on Sunday is still in abeyance. That is, there is no obligation to attend Mass for anyone.

2) The elderly, the frail and anyone ill or with an underlying medical condition is strongly advised to stay home. ***Let me emphasize this: PLEASE STAY HOME IF YOU ARE ELDERLY OR INFIRM.*** If you do not attend Mass you have in no sense sinned nor are you in a state of sin for failure to attend Mass.

3) A face covering is REQUIRED. A medical mask, scarf or bandana will suffice. The Bishop asks that people wear these out of a sense of responsibility and charity towards our neighbor.

4) Please 'social distance' with the exception of family units.

5) We will not pass the collection plates. There will be a collection basket placed at the entry to the church. Please use it.

6) Please pay particular attention to the ushers this week. We will exit the church after Mass by rows to avoid bunching up in groups.

7) I will be listening to confessions starting at 4:00 PM Saturday evening in Vernon and before Mass in Crowell and Quanah.

This has been intensely trying and stressful for us all. But we need to remember that this still the Easter season and that

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Philip D. Petta

Pastor