

ST. CHRISTOPHER by-the-RIVER  
AN EPISCOPAL PARISH IN THE DIOCESE OF OHIO

The Reverend Ann Kidder, Rector

May 21, 2020

Dear Friends,

If you have had the opportunity to read the May 19<sup>th</sup> letter from the Bishops of Ohio and Southern Ohio, you will be aware that our two dioceses have agreed on a process, and standards, for a return to worshipping in person. Each parish will need to formulate a detailed plan for resuming in-person worship in a manner that will keep us all as safe as possible. The proposed plan will need to be reviewed and accepted by the Diocese prior to resuming in-person worship. I am hopeful that the Vestry and I will be able to send a proposed plan for St. Christopher's to the Diocese by the first week in June.

If all goes smoothly, we may be able to regather for worship by the end of June. I want to emphasize here that no one will be required to come back to worship. If gathering with a large group does not feel safe, if you are over 65 and especially if you have any health conditions that increase your vulnerability to COVID-19, I encourage you to make the worship choice that is right for you. We will continue to offer on-line opportunities for worship, fellowship, and study through the end of this year and likely beyond. John Irwin will continue to post our Sunday worship on our parish YouTube channel. So please, again, make the choice that is best for your health and safety. I love and care for you all and my greatest fear throughout this time has been that one of you would fall victim to this terrible virus.

I will keep you all updated as we move toward a new phase of our worshipping life. Once our parish plan has been approved, I will share those details with you so that you will know what to expect when you arrive for worship in our building again. In the meantime, know that you continue in my prayers.

With Love,  
Ann+

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