

# welcome

# H O M E



SAVANNAH DEFELICE



"Welcome Home," is what I heard as I got out of the car to walk into the 9:30am Mass at St Lawrence O'Toole church on June 14th! What an incredible day to come "Home", the day of Corpus Christi - the day we celebrate the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ. It was such a blessing coming back to Mass even with all the

safety precautions in place. I was so excited to be back at Mass I didn't even notice the mask. I was so humbled to know that after three long, hard months without the Eucharist, I would be receiving the Body of Jesus again! What a blessing to be able to come back and feel the homey feeling that St Lawrence O'Toole offers like no other church. We can all agree that this year has been tough, with the pandemic and all the uncertainty, no one really knows who or what to trust but we do know that Jesus never leaves us. Isaiah 41:10 says "Do not fear: I am with you; do not be anxious: I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand." and how true that is.

After Mass, we all headed down to the train station where the Corpus Christi procession began at 12:30 pm; it was so great to see so many people after having been in quarantine for so long. Being able to appreciate the divine gift of the Eucharist on such a sunny day after being deprived of it for so long was as if God was saying "Welcome Home" too! The procession of the Monstrance through the town of Brewster was led by Father Rich, Deacon Mark, and Deacon Greg. At each station we knelt and listened to a reading and then we stood up and sang as the Monstrance was carried to the next station. We did this at each station as we made our way back to St Lawrence where it was concluded with benediction. It was a perfect way to kick off coming back to Mass, and it definitely helped my family feel welcomed home. I want to thank Father Rich, Deacon Mark, and Deacon Greg for braving the heat and making Corpus Christi such a lovely experience for everyone that attended.

TOM HEALY



On Saturday June 13th and Sunday June 14th, the doors for Mass at St. Lawrence O'Toole and Sacred Heart parish were reopened and we were able to receive the Body of our Lord, Jesus Christ. After a 3 month exile, Mass is back! Welcome home! How great it was to have all the graces

of the Eucharist again. It was so nice to see people we have not seen for 3 months and to celebrate together (at a social distance). Greeters were out front to welcome everyone, and to help with seating, and you could see the smiles even with masks on!

And to be able to celebrate our first Mass back on Corpus Christi, the day we celebrate the true body and blood of Christ, was so fitting. Jesus Christ is truly present with us. We celebrated with a procession through the village with prayers, hymns, and gospel readings, ending with Benediction at St. Lawrence. Thanks to Fr Rich for keeping us going while we were away with LIVESTREAMING Mass, Seasons of Praise, and daily Facebook live events. We are so blessed to be part of this Parish, to be back at Mass, and to receive communion again! God is good all the time!

## TEMPORARY MASS SCHEDULE

**Daily Mass** (St. Lawrence)

8:30 am M-F

7:00 pm T,W,TH

**Saturday**

4:00 pm (Sacred Heart)

5:30 pm and 7:30 pm Spanish (St. Lawrence)

**Sunday**

8 am, 9:30 am and 11:00 am (St. Lawrence)

10:30 am (Sacred Heart)