

Guidelines for Mass

The Mass times will stay the same which will be about the only thing that remains the same as pre - virus. The only doors that will be open will be the front canopy doors. We are only allowed to have every other pew for sitting. The ones that cannot be used will be cordoned off with a sign and cord. We are only allowed to have 25% of the capacity used which is about 200 people. The movable walls will be open and there will be seating for about 40 people by families and one section for individuals. Please do not move chairs around. Baskets will be placed on stands for people to drop your contributions in as we have to dispense with the preparation of the gifts. Hand sanitizers will be located at the inner entrances to the church body. Participants are expected to wear masks. Parishioners who are over 65, or ill as well as children are dispensed from the obligation to attend Mass. That choice is left up to the individuals and parents.

The Cry Room is not allowed to be used. Communion will only be distributed by the Priest and Deacon or by the Priest and one Eucharistic Minister. Communion can only be received "in the hand". Two Ushers will be at the main doors to take a count and will have to stop letting people in when we reach 200. The choir loft will be locked and cannot be used.

Tape will be placed on the aisle floors every 6 feet to help keep the distance when processing for communion. Weekday Masses are still to be celebrated privately. This may change later as our main focus right now is opening for the weekend Masses. Missalette and music issues cannot be used and will be removed from the church for the time being. Choirs are not allowed but Cantors and Accompanists will lead the singing. The songs are to be the most common ones since we will not have books. Holy Water fonts are still prohibited.

There will be info sheets posted on the doors of the church to remind everyone of proper protocol. It will take sometime to get used to the new way of doing things so please be patient with us. This is all new territory for us. There is not time line for how long this will go on or when additional changes may come into play. Confirmation and First Eucharist are being discussed with the Bishop and the priests and we will get information out as soon as we can.