

... as we return...

May 21, 2020

Parishioner Guidelines

Priority #1: The praise and worship of God in the Eucharist.

While that is still true, we need to assist one another in the safest way to accomplish our mission.

As you know the Bishop has granted dispensation, currently, through June 30, 2020. If you are vulnerable due to age, health concerns, or are caring for an at risk person or persons, please stay home. We love you.

As you prepare for Mass:

1. Please plan ahead! We are under strict attendance guidelines. Please go to: www.ourcatholiccommunity or call the parish office and register for the Mass you would like to attend. Remember there are 4 Masses. You will be asked how many are coming from your household.
2. Please, bring your own sanitizer
3. Everyone 2 years or older will need to wear a mask throughout Mass.
4. To limit exposure, please use your bathroom before leaving home.

What to Expect when you arrive:

~Please plan to use only the Oak St. entrance off the parking lot. Other exterior doors will be unavailable. Don your mask upon arrival.

~At the door, Ushers/Hospitality will check you in. If there is a line at the door, practice safe distancing. Be patient, be kind, we are all new at this. It will take time.

~ Holy water fonts will remain empty. Drinking fountains are covered

~At the double door entry to the nave, you will find a basket where you can leave your weekly envelope or contribution. We will not pass the baskets at Offertory.

~Once checked in, proceed directly to the seat of your choice, through the double doors that are propped open. You will find some of the pews roped off for distancing and the cry room will be temporarily unavailable.

~Please select an open pew and fill the center seats first to avoid anyone having to step over you. Households may sit together. All others should practice safe distancing. *You will note small pieces of blue tape on the back of the pews that assist in denoting six feet.*

~You will notice that the hymnals, prayer books and all other envelopes etc. have been removed. If you bring personal worship aids, please take them with you when you leave.

And Mass Begins:

Minor changes: Exchanging a sign of Peace has always been optional and will be omitted for this time. We will not join hands for the praying of the Our Father.

Please read Communion guidelines on the next page carefully to avoid any confusion.

COMMUNION: The Celebrant will be the only one to distribute Communion.

Hospitality Ministers will dismiss the rows by section.

Communion Procession - As you are dismissed, please practice distancing. As you move forward in procession, pause only at the vacant/roped off pew. When you reach the first pew, remove your mask, bow, Celebrant: “the Body of Christ”, respond: “Amen” **then** move forward to receive, with arms fully extended. Step aside and replace your mask.

Those seated in the side sections will be dismissed to walk along the side aisles and join the procession down the center aisle.

Exiting: We will leave by the same doors to Oak St. out of respect for those cleaning and disinfecting for your safety.

Hospitality will dismiss by section to aid in distancing. Please do not linger in the Narthex and again practice safe distancing both inside and outside.

Generally Speaking:

Be aware of the surfaces that you touch. If you don't need to touch, don't.

Please refrain from going to other parts of the building. Those doing the disinfecting, thank you!

Thank you so much for your patience and cooperation. This is a learning curve for all of us. We want everyone to be safe and to feel that they are safe. This is a process that will be evaluated as we move forward. We understand that this can be confusing. Please know we are here to help in whatever way we can.

God's peace be with you.