



St. Edward's Reboot Plan: An Overview



DRAFT DATED 5/23/2020

WEEKEND MASS, starting May 30/31: Saturday at 5:00 p.m., Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

For the time being, there will be no 8:15 or 10:45 a.m. Mass on Sunday.

DAILY MASS, starting Friday, June 5: Monday & Friday ONLY at 9:00 a.m.

CONFESSION, starting Saturday, June 6: Saturday at 4:00 p.m.

SHOULD YOU COME TO MASS?

Bishop Brennan has granted a dispensation from attending Mass until September 13, 2020.

Those who are high-risk (over the age of 70, with serious health conditions, symptoms of a cough or a fever) should avoid public gatherings, including Mass.

Streamed video Masses will continue to be posted every weekend on our parish website.

Restrooms will be open for emergency use. Water fountains will be shut off.

The tabernacle area and shrines will be closed.

BEFORE MASS

- Please park in the main parking lot. *The west lot by the rosary garden will be closed.*
- Please enter the church using the front two center doors. They will be unlocked 30 minutes prior to the start of Mass. *All other doors, including the west entrance & parish office doors, will be locked.*
- The diocese is asking all who attend Mass “to maintain hand hygiene” and “to wear a cloth face covering” unless you are under age 2. Please bring your own masks & hand sanitizer. *If you cannot, masks and sanitizer will be available in the gathering space.*
- Please maintain social distancing. Every third pew will be open for seating and marked to indicate proper social distance. Ushers will be available to assist you with seating.

DURING MASS

- Msgr. Enke & Deacon John will perform all ministerial duties. For now, there will be no servers, lectors, or other ministers distributing Communion.
- There will be limited music, but per diocesan recommendations, there will be no choirs or congregational singing. Hymnals have been removed from the pews.
- There will be no collection during Mass. Before or after Mass, please deposit your offering in the designated basket or box provided in the gathering space. (On St. Vincent de Paul collection weekends, a separate SVdP basket or box will be available.)

Communion Procedure: There will be no distribution from the chalice.

- The direction that you exit the pews and the Communion minister stations will be new. Please remain in your pew until an usher directs you when and where to go.
- Please remove your mask prior to receiving Communion, then put it back on afterwards.
- Please adhere to the diocesan protocol that “The reception of Holy Communion in the hand is strongly encouraged.” Receiving in the hand will help to protect the safety of all present, including Msgr. Enke, Deacon John, and yourself.

AFTER MASS

- Do not rush to the exit. Please follow the dismissal procedure, which will be announced.
- The bulletin is being posted online, but some printed copies will be available as you exit.
- As per diocesan guidelines, “socialization after Mass is to be avoided.”

Questions & Answers

How will the church be cleaned? On Friday afternoons, Saturdays after Mass, and Sundays after Mass, our long-time professional cleaners will spray pews and other high-touch surfaces with disinfectant and wipe them down. They will mop/disinfect floors in the church and gathering space, and they will sanitize the restrooms. Air purifying machines will also be used. After daily Mass, our parish maintenance staff will disinfect pews and other high-touch surfaces with a cleaning agent recommended by the diocese.

Why is there only one Sunday Mass? Won't that make the other two Masses more crowded? Having two Masses on Sunday morning is not possible due to the amount of time that will be needed to disinfect and sanitize the church between Masses. Based on our attendance on March 14-15 (the final weekend before Masses were suspended), we anticipate that one Mass on Saturday and one on Sunday will be adequate for now. We will continue to monitor and assess what will work best as we move forward.

Why is the west parking lot by the rosary garden closed? The west doors will be locked, so closing that lot will encourage parking in the main lot, closer to the unlocked main entrance.

What happens if I cannot find a seat in church? Ushers will do their best to assist you with finding a seat. Depending on the circumstances, the area outside the front portico may serve as an overflow area as long as social distancing is maintained. Mass can be heard via the speaker system. We may not exceed our limited seating capacity, but ushers may guide those who wish to receive Communion into the church at the appropriate time.

If we can't sing, what music will there be? At appropriate times, there will be organ/piano instrumentals. There may also be vocal or instrumental solos depending on the availability of cantors and instrumentalists. (Choirs have been discouraged by the diocese, but solo musicians are permitted.) Our music director will make arrangements with our parish musicians in the coming days.

How exactly will Communion distribution work? Those seated in the side sections will receive Communion first, followed by those in the main nave. To maintain social distancing, the direction of flow and the location of the Communion stations will be new, so please remain in your pew until ushers direct you where/when to go. For the safety of all, please also respect the guidelines regarding masks and reception in the hand as described earlier.

How long will these changes to Mass last? Will there be other changes? We do not know. Our parish Reboot Committee will make adjustments as necessary based on our experience and changing diocesan guidelines.

Why are many doors locked and the tabernacle area and shrines roped off? As we reopen, these temporary changes will reduce the number of areas that need to be disinfected. Once we learn exactly how long the disinfecting/sanitizing process will take, we can make adjustments as necessary.

When will the church open for Adoration, individual private prayer, more daily Masses, and meetings? We are not yet sure. As with the previous question, learning more about the duration of the cleaning process will enable us to determine how best to proceed with all of these.

What other information will be forthcoming? Our Reboot Committee will meet again on Thursday, May 28. On Friday, May 29, updated information and a video tour of the church will be sent via Flocknote and posted on the parish website. The video will enable you to see what the prepared church will look like. In the days prior to Confession restarting on June 6, more details will be sent via Flocknote and posted on the website. Additional information on other aspects of our reopening will be sent as soon as they are finalized.

