



## CIRCULAR

20<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear Parishioners,

### **Sub: Limited resumption of Holy Masses**

We are happy to announce that permission has been given by the Ministry of Religious Affairs to Sts Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Ruwi for the resumption of Holy mass, with effect from Tuesday, 22 December 2020. Attendance however is limited and subject to strict compliance to the guidelines designed to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Based on the instructional guidelines prescribed by the authorities concerned, attendance and worship at Ruwi Church are allowed subject to the following:

i) **Online Registration:** Entry into the Church will be strictly limited only to those who register in advance to attend the holy mass. A special online link created on our website (<https://ruwiparish.org>) allows parishioners to register their details. Upon successful completion of the registration, you will receive an SMS (text message) on your phone, which must be displayed to secure entry into the Church for the desired service. Every individual of ages 12 to 65 years is required to register online to gain entry into the Church.

ii) **Entry limits for children and elderly:** Children below 12 years and the elderly above 65 years will not be allowed to enter the Church premises for the present period in line the government's pandemic mitigation measures.

iii) **Early arrival:** Please arrive at least 30 minutes early for verification of your registration and completion of safety measures prescribed by the authorities. A minimum distance of 1.5 meters is mandatory between individuals.

iv) **Symptomatic cases:** Please stay at home if you are sick or having any symptoms of COVID 19 or exposed to someone who have tested positive for the virus.

### **Other measure**

- No** entry into the Church without online registration. ([www.ruwiparish.org](http://www.ruwiparish.org))
- No** touching of images of Saints, Bible, Hymn books.
- No** sprinkling of Holy Water.





- d) **No** choir during the services.
- d) **No**-air-conditioning during the service.
- e) **No** footwear allowed inside the church, leave it outside the church or in car.
- f) **No** use of washrooms and toilet, it will remain closed.
- g) Wear a face mask at all times.
- h) Use hand sanitizer placed at the entrances.
- i) After the mass all are advised to immediately leave the church premises.
- j) For those who are registered to attend the mass, proceed to the Grotto gate.
- k) Church will remain closed after the mass service.

**vi) Mass Timings –**

Friday: 7.00 am, 10.00 am, 4.00 pm, 7.00 pm;

Saturday: 4.00 pm, 7.00 pm;

Sunday: 6.00 am, 5.00 pm, 8.00 pm;

Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu & Sat: 6 am & 7.00 pm

24<sup>th</sup> Dec : 8.00pm virtual Christmas Carols followed by Mass

31<sup>st</sup> Dec : 8.00pm virtual Holy Hour and New Year Eve Mass.

Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Ruwi extends our sincere gratitude to the the Ministry of Religious Affairs for the care and support they have provided to the faithful during the pandemic. We thank the Oman Government for the reopening of all Catholic Churches and we will remain committed to ensure that the pandemic prevention guidelines given to our church will be strictly followed.

**We appeal to all our parishioners to strictly comply with the guidelines when visiting the Church. Kindly be advised that anyone found violating these guidelines are liable to legal action and other penalties by the authorities.**

**Fr. Raul L. Ramos, OFM Cap**  
Parish Priest

