



May 13, 2020

Dear Families of our Pastoral Region,

I am happy to announce that worship at Mass will begin on Monday, May 25. To start, our parishes will offer one public Mass per day, per church with the following schedule:

<b>St. Teresa of Avila</b>	<b>Saint William</b>
Monday-Friday 12:00 noon	Monday-Friday 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 4:00 p.m.	Saturday 3:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:30 a.m.	Sunday 11:00 a.m.

**Please remember that the faithful have been dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass.** Thus, those who wish to participate in Mass and receive Holy Communion can do so by attending a Mass any day of the week. Those who are at risk or fearful that they or their family may become sick are encouraged to continue to participate in online, televised, or radio broadcast Masses.

Appropriate social distancing and the regulations put forth by public health authorities must be observed. Here are the guidelines:

- We are initially limited to a maximum of 200 people in St. Teresa Church and 135 in Saint William Church.
- Entry will be made available through the front doors (including the breezeway entrance at St. Teresa). All interior entry doors will be open for you to have a touchless entry into the worship spaces.
- Touchless hand sanitizer dispensers will be available as you enter. Please use it.
- We are asking that everyone who is able, please wear a mask. This is for the protection of everyone around you.
- Use all available space in the worship space that is marked for use. We have carefully planned for proper social distancing.
- Families who live together may sit together. All others must be spaced at least 6 feet apart (front, back, sides).
- Holy water will not be available in the fonts.
- No physical contact at the Our Father or Sign of Peace.
- No Holy Communion from the chalice by the faithful.
- Communion will be done by sections (left and right, front and back depending on crowd size), please wait for guidance before coming forward. You will stay 6 feet apart from every individual as you approach for Communion, following the floor tape as a guide. (A family with small children can approach together, keeping 6 feet from other parishioners.)
- For the reception of communion: remove your mask, accept the Host in your hand, place it in your mouth and replace your mask.
- Please do not wear gloves when receiving Communion.

- There will be one Eucharistic minister per section front/back. Eucharistic ministers will do their best to drop the host into your hand without touching. Please be attentive so this can happen easily. Eucharistic ministers will be wearing masks and will sanitize their hands prior to distribution of communion.
- You will notice that the choirs will not be singing. We may use a musician or cantor at Mass, but not groups that sing together.
- Our priests will be presiding at Mass without a server.
- Hymnals and Missalettes will **not** be made available during Mass. Missalettes are available at St. Teresa if you would like one for your personal use (you may contact the parish office). Please do not leave any books or bulletins that you have touched in church.
- In order to have only one person using the ambo microphone, one reader will lector the first and second readings and the petitions when the Deacon is not available.
- Collections will take place as usual with handled baskets. Collectors will be wearing masks. You may continue to mail or take your donations to the parish office or contribute online. We appreciate your gifts so much during this difficult time!
- Ushers will be handing out available bulletins after Mass Saturday and Sunday. They will wear masks and will have sanitized their hands. Bulletins are also available online through our website or MyParish App. Please take the time to read them and stay informed. If you have not been following the bulletins it would be good to go back and see what you may have missed.
- The church will be sanitized every day so that it is clean and ready for the next Mass.

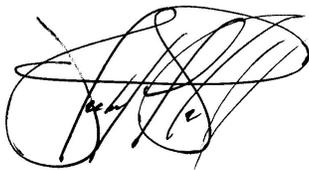
During the first two weeks of public Masses, we will be counting attendees and making any adjustments that are needed. Therefore, we may have further changes and will share any additional communications regarding our observations.

If you are a Mass Captain, Sacristan, Eucharistic Minister, Lector, or Usher, your coordinator will contact you for scheduling. You may also reach out to them with your availability.

Remember, the responsibility to keep others healthy is one that we all share. If you are sick or have been exposed to someone who is sick, please do not join us for Mass at this time. Please wear a mask and use hand sanitizer. This is for the protection of you and those around you. Most importantly, always be kind and patient. We are in a confusing and sometimes overwhelming situation. Your parish is doing its absolute best to help you, protect you, and share our love for Christ with you. Please show your love of Christ by being Christ to others!

If you have any questions, please contact the parish offices by phone or by email.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Rev. Michael L. Bidwell  
Pastor, St. Teresa of Avila and St. William Church