



## Welcome Back to Mass!

7 May 2020

Brothers and Sisters at St. Rose,

**Alleluia!** Alleluia is a special word of Hope for us Christians, Christ is risen and has brought His saving power to bear in our lives. Our Alleluia today comes to us in the form of a *limited* return to Masses. Archbishop Sample, working within the framework established by Governor Brown in her executive order 20-12 and her plan to re-open Oregon published on 7 May, desires that parishes – each according to their own circumstances and ability – begin to have Masses with up to 25 people. At St. Rose, we will start this weekend, 9-10 May 2020.

This won't be a return to "normal". But it is a way to begin to provide essential access to the Eucharist for all of you, the faithful, who desire. It's important to remember:

- Dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation continues – no one has to come, but it is now a possibility for those who wish. *Live-streaming of Masses will continue daily on Facebook.*
- Those who are vulnerable, at-risk, or otherwise concerned persons are encouraged to stay home and stay safe according to your state in life and informed conscience.
- Those who are sick, feverish, coughing or with other symptoms *must* stay home and are not allowed in the church.

## What we will do

Those who attend Mass do so at their own risk. To mitigate the risk, here's what we will do:

- Provide appropriate physical distancing for everyone, even in the Communion line.
- Clean and disinfect the church after each use.
- Require all participants to wear masks. *Please remove masks for communion time.*
- Ushers/monitors will take your temperature before entering and coordinate exiting.
- Keeping people in the church for as little time as possible to celebrate Mass with reverence. *Sorry you can't stay after and pray after Mass very long.*
- Limiting surfaces you touch by designated entrance/exits and increasing air extraction in the church.
- Maintain the legal limit of no more than 25 persons at a given Mass **by invitation only.**

## How can I come?

- Sign up for our **Mass pool** in advance by contacting Dianna ([dcooper@strosepx.org](mailto:dcooper@strosepx.org) or 503-281-5318) with your first name, last name, and contact number, and we will equitably begin inviting you to a Mass. **You must sign up, you can't show up.**



- Once invited, enter 15 minutes before each Mass through the door at the top of the ramp on 54<sup>th</sup> Ave. and meet the usher/monitor. No one who simply shows up for a Mass can be allowed entrance.
- Other parishes will also be doing some type of sign-up system. We do ask you not to sign up for the Mass pool in multiple parishes.

We are excited for this opportunity and taking all recommendation from the Governor's office, the CDC, and the Archbishop's office very seriously. We've consulted with two other dioceses who've already reopened and 9 other parishes and feel very confident that we are acting wisely and doing our best to begin providing access to the Eucharist for your spiritual good. As we learn more and see how things go, there may be changes, please bear with us.

To begin, our Mass and Confession schedule will be changed to:

**Sunday thru Saturday – 7:30-8:15am Confessions in Sacristy followed by 8:30am Mass**  
**Saturday – 4-5pm Confessions followed by 5:30pm Vigil Mass.**

Now, we don't know how long this will last and we know that Fr. Matt does not have infinite stamina or immunity from sickness himself. So, if there is ever a day he can't make it, Bishop Baron will cover Mass for him via Facebook video link and there will be no confessions that day. We will give you as much heads up as possible. As we begin to see how this works with your schedule and the need you express, we will begin to add more Masses at different times. We want to take slow but sure-footed steps. As always, we value any and all input you have and what works for your family. We want to do our best and you are a part of that!

We look forward to celebrating Mass together with you! Alleluia!

With Hope,

*Fr. Matthew A. Libra*

Fr. matt libra