Working together for safe reception of Holy Communion

On receiving the Blessed Sacrament during a pandemic

Pictured: It is safest to share Holy Communion when the communicant's hands are placed out in front of the person, opened flat.

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
June 21, 2020

Now that we've got two Masses with public reception of Communion under our belt, we've got a chance to work through the wrinkles and see what works and what doesn't - on both our end and your end. Here's some insight to how things work together to keep everyone safe:

What we're doing

You may have noticed that only the priest celebrant and deacon are distributing Holy Communion. With the worries about cross-contamination, social distancing, and sanitization, it is simpler and minimizes the risks to have two stations to worry about rather than more.

Our clergy wear face masks for Communion, and have a table next to them with hand sanitizer and soapy water in case they come in contact with someone receiving Holy Communion. There were a few instances where they paused to wash and sanitize their hands this past Sunday due to inadvertent contact. Coincidentally, this is why they do not wear gloves - gloves reduce touch sensitivity, which makes it harder to know when contact has been made - which would merit washing and sanitizing of the hands.

We also make sure that the hosts are off to the side during Consecration, so Father isn't speaking directly over them. There is also a "contact-less" preparation of the Communion hosts - sacristans pour them into the plates rather than scoop them with their hands.
What we ask you to do

Follow the direction of the Parking Attendants who will invite you out of your car if you wish to receive Communion, and stand on the marked lines on the floor for the Communion Procession. (If you do not wish to receive, please feel free to remain in your car.)

Please remember the proper hand position to receive the Blessed Sacrament in Holy Communion: hands palm-up, one directly on top of the other, offered out in front of you (as pictured above). This allows the Communion Minister to have the least opportunity to accidentally come into contact with your hands. If your hands are curled up or if you reach to "take" the Blessed Sacrament, there is a greater chance of coming into contact with each other. (If you'd like more information on how to receive the Eucharist, please click here for a great video resource!)

If you are unable to exit your car for Communion, please let a Parking Attendant know as they direct you to park for Mass. They will make sure the priest celebrant or deacon come to your car at the end of the Communion Procession.

Finally, please continue to wear your masks if your windows are down and as you come up to receive the Blessed Sacrament.

All of us working together as a parish will help keep our spiritual and physical lives thriving together!

Megan Arteaga
Youth Minister

Weekend Worship Opportunities
June 21, 2020

8:30am | Mass in the Parking Lot; also Livestreamed (available all day)
10:30am | Mass in the Parking Lot

Download and print the Worship Aid here

Join us this Sunday in the Parking Lot at 8:30am or 10:30am for Mass! We are blessed to be able to celebrate Masses publicly with you again. If you are unable to physically join us, we will continue to livestream the 8:30am Mass for you to participate from home.

Click on the image to open or print this Sunday's worship aid for your convenience.

Income Report: March-May
We are grateful to those of you who have continued to support our parish during these trying times. We are greatly appreciative of
any help you can provide so we can continue to provide the services you request and need.

Here is a summary plate collection report for the last few months:

- **March 2020**: $47,746.76
- **April 2020**: $37,181.40
- **May 2020**: $50,812.90

We will be able to give you further information and context for our financial situation in the coming weeks as other developments unfold.

*To make a donation to Santa Maria, please click here!*

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**What's that on the roof?**

Or rather - what's missing? You may recall that this summer, we'll be installing solar panels on the roof of the school building.

By the time you read this, roofers should have begun to take the tiles off of the western side of the roof to facilitate installation of the solar panels.

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**Seeking Backpack Drive Coordinator**

St. Vincent de Paul reached out to our parish to see if we'd be interested to help with their 2020 Back-to-School Drive, so we're checking with you, our parish:

Does anyone feel passionate enough about this project to coordinate it this year, working with St. Vincent de Paul to get the details and share them with our parish and organize the drive?

If so, let us know!

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**Update on the Sacrament of Confirmation**

To those of you who have been keeping our teens in your prayers as they've prepared for Confirmation - thank you!

Unfortunately, we still have no updates on when the Sacrament will be rescheduled and how it will be celebrated (e.g., indoors or out, as one group or as multiple) due to the strictures on public worship.

Thank you for your patience, and know that as soon as we know, you'll
Looking for a great local school?
Learn how the community of St. Perpetua came together for a successful school year - thanks to all the teachers, students, and parents who overcame unique challenges to make it work.

Want to learn more about this amazing school? Get in touch today!

High Noon at Santa Maria is still happening!
If you haven't yet joined us for a High Noon event, why not check it out? Add these as recurring events to your calendar today so you'll get a reminder!

Monday Prayer with Megan | Click to join
Tuesday Adoration | Click to participate
Wednesday Faith Sharing with Tony | Click to join
Thursday Rosary with Deacon Jim | Click to join

How can I keep supporting Santa Maria?
Thank you so much for thinking about us and continuing to support our parish during these trying times! We are greatly appreciative of any help you can provide.

You may drop your collection in the offertory baskets at Parking Lot Masses, mail a check to the Parish Office (40 Santa Maria Way, Orinda CA 94563), or make a one-time donation using Faith Direct, our eGiving service, to make your offering.

If you would like, you can also sign up for recurring giving through Faith Direct to continue to give to the Sunday plate even though you can't come to the church to drop it in the basket as usual. Again, we thank you for your planning and your generosity!

Pastoral Team
Reverend George Mockel
Pastor

Prayer Intentions
For the Sick:
Liduvina Acosta, Sonny Acosta, Mary
Deacon Rey Encarnacion
dcn.rey@smparish.org x310

Deacon James Pearce
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Mirna Wong
Administrative Assistant
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Tony Millette
Liturgy and Music
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Sister Mary Margaret Phan, LHC
Faith Formation (Grades K-5)
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Megan Arteaga
Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12),
Communications, and CYO
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Sister Mary Magdalene Nguyen, LHC
Pastoral Care of the Sick
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Sister Magdalena Duong, LHC
Bookkeeper
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Beth Alban, Joan Artmann, Shoab Aryan, Kristy Blackey-Taylor, Kathie Brady, Cara Bradbury, Maria Carmen, Fred Chavaria, Jan Coe, Grace Parent DeBoot, Rich Delany, Lorna Elliott, Anne Emery, Nora Enriquez, Emidio Fonseca, Liam Foley, Patricia Fox, Bridget Gallagher, Noreen Gillham, Doris Hale, Florentino Ibabao, Brian Kelly, Mason Kelly, Aileen Kelly, Michael Kelly, Jim Kennedy, Jerry Kirk, Lawrence Knapp, Carol Kopus, Judy Lazarus, Rose Mary McPhee, Robert Nick, Arsi Orihuella,
Deacon Jim Pearce, Kathleen Pelz, Ann Powell, Mark Ricci, Ben Richey, Brian Riley, Patrick Sheehy, Jean Wells, Faye Young

Would you like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list? Please contact Mirna in the Parish Office at 925-254-2426 or at mirnawong@smparish.org.

Mass Intentions
All Mass Intentions during Shelter in Place orders are either postponed or celebrated privately. Mirna is contacting all those who requested the currently scheduled intentions.

To request a Mass Intention, please contact Mirna in the Parish Office.