

St Paul the Apostle Phase 5 Plan

Dispensation: The dispensation to attend Sunday Mass remains in place for the time being, with the intention of providing our parishes and our parishioners the opportunity to navigate and adjust to these new guidelines and protocols.

Masks: Fully vaccinated people may begin to opt out of wearing masks at Parish liturgies as well as parish functions. This includes Mass, visits to the office, group meetings and other gatherings. The diocese is requesting that unvaccinated individuals still continue to wear a mask and that children younger than 12 continue to wear masks. Fully vaccinated Priests and Deacons will no longer be required to wear a mask at Mass but will continue to be asked to wear one for distribution of Holy Communion.

Entrances: We will be opening up all of our entrances for use at Sunday Masses. Please use the entrance you feel comfortable using. At Daily Masses, funerals and weddings and other liturgies we will use the awning door entrance and the main entrance.

Pew Configuration: Inside the church the pews will no longer be numbered and the ropes will be removed. We are allowed to use our full capacity. Please use common sense however and social distance between households where possible. The NORTH wing of the church will be a designated "MASK ONLY ZONE". People with masks may sit anywhere in the church but unmasked individuals may not sit in the "MASK ONLY ZONE"

Registration: We will discontinue the use of the registration system. You are no longer required to register for Mass or check in as you come to Mass. We will however keep our system dormant in the event that it is needed in the future.

Communion: We will continue to receive communion ONLY in the HAND. The Diocese is not permitting the distribution of the Blood of Christ at this time. We will return to using communion lines to process up to receive Holy Communion. At Sunday Masses we will have you leave your pews closest to the wall and return to your seats down the middle aisle. If you are sitting in a wing please exit your pew on the west side, process to the communion minister and return to your pew on the east side. If you are sitting in either the cry room or the balcony please join one of the main lines in the center section for communion.

Communion Ministers: We will continue to ask all of our communion ministers to mask up and use hand sanitizer before distributing communion. Face shields will be optional for them.

Hand Sanitizer: Hand Sanitizer will still be available by the Awning door as well as the main entrance of the church for those who would like to continue to use it. We will no longer be sending out a hand sanitizer minister to the pews before communion. If you would like to

continue to use hand sanitizer for yourself before communion you are welcome to bring your own bottle with you for use.

Church Sanitization: We will continue the use of the sanitizing misting machines once per day in the church building.

Holy Water Fonts: At this time the diocese is still not permitting the use of public holy water fonts.

Sign of Peace: At this time the diocese is still asking us to do socially distant non-touch forms of sign of peace, please consider the use of a friendly wave.

Music & Singing: At this time the diocese is NOT making any significant changes to music & singing. We will continue to do music as we have been during covid until these restrictions relax.

Processions: We will begin doing an entrance procession at our Sunday Masses. The closing procession will continue to be a simple one to the back. We are currently discussing plans to bring back other kinds of processions but those will come at a later date.

Hospitality Ministers: We would like to begin to invite both our greeters who have helped us during covid as well as our ushers to join a ministry that will combine elements of both. Please contact the parish office if you are interested in being a Hospitality minister. Our ministers will help assist with doing the collection, helping form the communion lines, as well as being a friendly presence to our parishioners.

Collections: For the short-term we will continue to have our collection baskets by the sanctuary towards the awning door. As we build our Hospitality Ministry we will look towards going back to in-mass collections again.

Bulletins: We will continue to utilize our electronic Constant Contact for the time being but are looking into our options to returning to a printed bulletin again.

YouTube: We fully plan to continue to make our YouTube mass available long into the future. We see this not only as a ministry that was useful during the pandemic but also a highly valued ministry to those who are homebound.