



HOLY NAME of JESUS CHURCH

A Community for Others

What's Happening at the Adoration Chapel?

It has been heartening to see how many people have been longing for the reopening of the Adoration Chapel. It is one of the most popular and successful ministries of our parish. Why, then, have we been so hesitant to reopen it when other churches have reopened theirs? The two populations who frequent our particular chapel are the elderly and the students of Tulane and Loyola. Under normal circumstances, to have this blend of the young and old is a great gift, but during the pandemic, this blend is a dangerous mix. We potentially are putting together one of the most vulnerable populations with one of the populations most likely to spread the virus. Because of our proximity to the universities then, we must be more cautious than most regarding when we open the chapel during the pandemic. To that end, we have put together a formal and official policy that will inform our decisions. The policy is spelled out in detail below, but the bottom line is this: **when COVID numbers are high and/or on the rise in Orleans Parish, we will close the chapel. When the numbers are low and/or on the decline, we will open the chapel.**

At the moment, Orleans Parish—and Louisiana in general—is enjoying a respite from the terrible outbreaks we've experienced in the past months. Therefore, I am delighted to say that **we have reopened the Chapel (on a limited basis)**. Nationally, there is talk of yet another surge. As of September 24, as many as 22 States are suffering from an increase in COVID cases. So far, Louisiana has been spared of this latest round, but we need to remain cautious and prepared to reclose the chapel if—God forbid—our number of cases begins to rise again in Orleans Parish. Experts are now predicting that the pandemic may well be with us through much of next year, so it may well be that we'll have to reclose and reopen the chapel a number of times before the pandemic finally passes. These are difficult times requiring painful decisions and hard sacrifices. Please be patient and understanding.

Mark E. Thibodeaux, SJ

Pastor

COVID Policy for the re-openings and re-closings of the Uptown Adoration Chapel at Holy Name of Jesus *(Beginning September 28, 2020 and for the foreseeable future...)*

The Adoration Chapel will re-open when:

- Both the city and state are in Phase 3
OR
- Orleans Parish has three consecutive weeks of declining new COVID cases
OR
- Orleans Parish has three consecutive weeks of less than 100 new COVID cases.

The Adoration Chapel will re-close immediately and will remain closed for at least 21 days if:

- The city moves from a less restrictive phase to a more restrictive phase (e.g. from Phase 3 to Phase 2)
OR
- Orleans Parish has three consecutive weeks of inclining new COVID cases
OR
- Orleans Parish has three consecutive weeks of over 300 new cases.

How and When Can I Pray in the Adoration Chapel?

The Adoration Chapel is currently opened **Monday-Friday from 9:00am - 9:00pm**. The chapel is located in the Parish Center building on the corner of Palmer & LaSalle. The address is: 6220 LaSalle Place, New Orleans, LA 70118. The chapel doors are locked for security purposes, so press the doorbell to the left in the entrance and a chapel attendee will come to let you in. If you are interested in joining our Adoration community or want to be added to the list, simply send an email to: AdorationChapelNola@gmail.com

Guidelines for the Adoration Chapel:

1. Every adorer is required to wear a mask.
2. Social distancing must be followed. Only 10 adorers will be allowed in the Adoration Chapel at one time. There are chairs in the chapel that are marked off with ribbons which indicates that no one is to sit there. Please sit in one of the 10 chairs that do not have a ribbon.
3. There is a contactless thermometer at the sign-in podium.
4. At the entrance are hand sanitizers and wipes. Please sanitize your hands before entering the chapel.

The chapel has been thoroughly sanitized and disinfected by a professional cleaning service. They also cleaned and disinfected the chairs.