

February 15, 2021

Dear Our Lady of Loretto Parishioners, as we approach this Lent Season may God bless you all:

Indoor Masses. I stated in the January Update that the situation during these COVID times with being permitted to have indoor and outdoor Masses has been a rollercoaster. Well, thanks be to God the rollercoaster has come down from its highest peak and we can finally coast (in a relative sense)! On Friday, February 5 the US Supreme Court ruled 6-3 that Houses of Worship in California can be permitted to have indoor worship following all safety protocols. OLL began indoor Masses on Monday, February 8. The weekend Mass schedule is slightly modified on Saturday with 5pm (English), 7pm (Spanish). Sunday remains the same: 8am, 10am (English), Noon, 2pm (Spanish). Daily Mass remains 9am Mon-Sat (English), 7pm Tuesday, Wednesday (Spanish). Following the Archbishop's safety protocols, we strictly observe at each Mass: wearing face masks, social distance, ventilation, sanitation and signing a consent release form. Our limit of persons per Mass is 120 including priests and ministers. God bless the Supreme Court for ruling in favor of our religious freedom.

Archdiocesan Annual Appeal (AAA). With your Update, you received an envelope for the AAA. It is an assessment by the Archdiocese on parishes to support such worthy programs as clergy support, parish schools, social ministry and church communications. If a parish doesn't pay its mandated assessment the money is taken out of its general fund. Our assessment this year is \$129,550. In order to facilitate collecting this amount OLL is offering a 1% Club where if you make a donation of \$1300 you will receive a beautiful OLL jacket. Father Brian last year made a donation of \$1350 or 1%, I will make a donation this year of \$1300. If you cannot donate that amount please consider giving \$300. As always, thank you for your fantastic support and generosity for OLL!

Pastor Selection Status. I mentioned in the January Update that priests from the Personnel Board did a virtual parish consultation on January 21 assessing the needs of the parish. They will make a recommendation to Archbishop Cordileone who will select a new OLL pastor sometime between March and May. I will keep you posted.

Hospitality Ministers. A big shout out to the Hospitality Ministers who check people in at Mass, take temperatures, greet parishioners, direct traffic inside and when we were outside, set up for Mass. They are hard-working, friendly, diplomatic and willing to take on any task. Without their service, we could not have public Masses during these COVID times. Thank you so much for all you do.

OLL School. Principal Kathleen Kraft and her staff continue to do an amazing job in running the school with safety protocols in place. Of the 195 students, 177 attend in person and 18 through computer distance learning. Enrollment is open for the fall semester. If you are interested in sending a child to the school or can refer one, call the school at 415-892-8692.

St Vincent de Paul Collection. They had their fifth Sunday collection at the Masses on January 31st and collected \$7834. Thank you for your support in helping the poor and vulnerable in our community.

Blessings in Jesus,

Father Tony Vallecillo, Administrator