

An update from Fr. Brian regarding Masses and Holy Communion distribution for the weekend of June 20th/21st

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Blessed Sacrament Church,

I am pleased to announce our continued expansion of the re-opening of Blessed Sacrament Church *at a limited capacity* for Weekend Mass. Masses will take place **in both the church and gymnasium** at 4pm June 20th and 10:30am June 21st so we will have doubled our capacity vs last weekend.

We will continue with the guidelines developed to ensure the continued safety of all. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding during this re-opening phase which we anticipate will run through the month of July.

Because the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass is still in effect due to Covid-19, please do not return to Mass if you are ill or are in a high-risk category. Rather, please join us virtually via our live-streamed Mass at 4pm Saturday and 10:30am Sunday.

We will also distribute communion to parishioners in vehicles after the Saturday 4pm Mass from approximately 5 to 5:30pm and after the Sunday 10:30am Mass from approximately 11:30am to Noon. We will be at the front entrance of the church.

If you intend to attend Mass, please watch the video we have prepared or read what follows to understand our procedures:

Before Mass:

- Registration for attending Mass will be required due to capacity restraints. Registration will open at noon on the Thursday prior to the weekend and will be accepted until we meet our capacity limit. **Use this Sign-Up Genius link** to register for the Mass you would like to attend. The link will also be included in our weekly Flocknote and posted on the parish website. For those without a computer, you can call Denise at the Parish Office.
- Please wash your hands before leaving home and plan to bring along a travel-size container of hand sanitizer for use before communion.

- Masks should be worn by all except the very young. Please put them on before you exit your vehicle.
- Plan to arrive at the Main Church entrance 20 minutes before Mass, where you will be asked to present a copy of your registration.
- Volunteers will seat your household. Worshipers will be seated to fill the open pews and gymnasium seats from front to back and every other pew will be closed.
- You may be sharing a pew or gymnasium row with another household. Be sure to keep a social distance of six feet between your family and theirs.
- There will be no seating in the narthex or cry room.
- If someone arrives without a confirmed seat, they will be directed to a standby line. If there's extra seating after the start of Mass, they'll be given a seat and the reserved seat will be forfeited. Please don't be late, or your seats could be given away.

During Mass:

- Please keep your face mask on for the duration of the liturgy.
- There should be no physical contact during the handshake of peace, and there should be no hand holding during the Lord's Prayer.
- Baskets will not be passed during the Offertory. You will be able to place your weekly gift in a basket as you exit the church. We encourage online giving - sign up via our Parish website.
- Communion distribution will be at the **END** of Mass following the final blessing. After receiving communion, you should exit the church immediately. Please do not gather in groups and maintain social distancing as you proceed to your vehicle.

Holy Communion Reception:

- Use of hand sanitizer before receiving Holy Communion is strongly encouraged.
- Volunteers will assist in each section. You should maintain a six foot distance between yourself and the person in front of you.
- As you approach to receive Holy Communion, keep your mask on. When you receive Communion in your hand, step to the side, remove your mask and consume the Eucharist.
- After you've received the Eucharist, put your mask back on and proceed to the nearest church exit.

After Mass:

- Private prayer is not available after Weekend Masses so the church/gymnasium may be cleaned and disinfected before the start of the next Mass.
- We will be utilizing a professional cleaning service to ensure the sanitization of pews, gymnasium seats, restrooms, door handles and critical surfaces.

We recognize that this process is not without inconvenience and your cooperation and patience are much appreciated. Everyone is responsible to make health decisions that are appropriate for themselves and/or family. While we are making every effort to minimize the transmission of disease, all risk cannot be eliminated. Again, if anyone has a reason to believe that they have been exposed to Covid-19, has a fever, respiratory issues or is simply not feeling well, please stay home. Continue to check our Parish website, Facebook Page and Flocknotes for updates on added mass times or changes in our process. Most of all, stay safe and healthy!