



OBJECTIVE

With restrictions and limitations, under the guidance of Bishop Michael Barber, Alameda County Department of Public Health, St. Joseph Basilica (SJB) plans to reopen for public Worship beginning on Sunday June 21, 2020 (beginning with outdoor services).

GENERAL

The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Masses continues until further notice. The Faithful are encouraged to continue with Livestream and **those who are at high risk (those elderly or have underlying health conditions) are to continue to stay home or take advantage of our drive through communion.**

CONTACT

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PRIOR TO OPENING

SITE PREPARATION

- All liturgical aids, brochures, bulletins, etc. have been removed from pews and vestibules including missalettes and Mass cards.
- Hand sanitizer and offertory baskets placed at entrances to Basilica/quad.
- Two Protexus electrostatic sprayers have been purchased and staff have been trained. The church will be disinfected before and after each indoor liturgy. Outdoor seating will be sanitized with dilute bleach after each Mass.
- Holy water fonts have been emptied and paper towel dispensers have been installed in the bathrooms to be used instead of the blow dryers.
- Parish will provide a video to help Parishioners to adapt to the necessary protocols.

SUNDAY MASS REGISTRATION

SJB will use the event registration capability of our e-giving platform, FaithDirect, which will open 24 hours in advance of the Mass and include health screening. Parishioners do not need to join or give through FaithDirect to register for Mass.

<https://membership.faithdirect.net/events/org/702>

We will be registering three groups of attendees:

- a) Families with children under 12
- b) People at higher risk due to age or other health conditions, and
- c) General admittance.

Each group will enter through a separate entrance which will be described in the registration process.

10-15% of total registration will be held back for distribution to people without computer access. Please contact Fr. Sunil to reserve if you need this.

BEFORE MASS

- Watch our “what to expect” video – linked on our website
- Print or take a photo of your reservation on your phone.
- Before leaving home assess the health of everyone in your family group. If anyone has any of the symptoms listed on your reservation or has a temperature higher than 99.9 F, we ask that everyone in your group remain at home and participate in the Mass via Live Stream.
- Use the bathroom before leaving home – the one bathroom that will be open can only accommodate one person/parent and child at a time and needs to be sanitized between uses.
- Bring your personal Missal or download the readings from our website if you wish to follow along during the Mass. No worship aides will be distributed.
- Plan to arrive at your designated entrance (noted on your reservation) 20-25 minutes before the designated Mass start.
- Your reservation will be given to those in the standby line if you have not arrived by 5 minutes before the start of Mass.
- Maintain physical distancing. Refer to marks on the ground. Family groups or people in the same ‘social bubble’ as defined by the Alameda County Department of Public Health do not need to socially distance.
- Wear a face covering that covers both your nose and mouth. The mask should not have an easy breath vent. The mask is primarily to protect others from you.

PROTOCOL

WHEN PARISHIONERS ARRIVE AT MASS

- Masks should be worn at all times on church property. Children <12 are not required to wear a mask, but are encouraged to do so, if possible; children < 2 yo should not wear a mask due to risk of suffocation.
- Masks will be available for anyone that requires one.
- Show ticket or phone message for seating. Usher will also have a list of those registered to attend Mass.
- Arrive early, doors will open 20-25 minutes prior to Mass.

- Pews/outdoor seating will be marked according to physical distancing guidelines. Ushers will seat each household (parishioners may be sharing a pew with others, but physical distancing will be observed).
- If someone arrives without a reserved seat, they will be asked to wait outside the church/quad in a socially spaced area in case of a no show. If there are any no-shows, parishioners or families will be invited in up to the 100-person capacity limit (50 for the initial Mass). If capacity has been reached, those in the waiting area will be asked to return home and participate in the Mass via live stream.
- Offertory baskets are at each entry / exit to use before or after Mass. An usher will be assigned to monitor the baskets.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Fr. Mario Rizzo, Fr. Sunil Orathel, Dcn Peter Lawongkerd
 Piano and Cantor
 One Lector

PROCEDURES DURING MASS

- Masks should remain on for the duration of the liturgy.
- Please greet others or offer a sign of peace with a nod, bow, wave or a peace sign – Please, no physical contact outside of your family group
- Collection baskets will not be passed; parishioners are invited to deposit their donations at the entrances of the church/quad as they arrive or exit Mass. Parishioners are strongly encouraged to donate online through FaithDirect.
- There will be a pianist and one cantor; worship aides will not be distributed, to discourage congregational singing.
- Offertory procession is omitted.

PROCEDURES FOR COMMUNION

- The distribution of Holy Communion will take place AFTER Mass.
- The Precious Blood (Cup) will not be offered to the congregation.
- You will be asked to sanitize your hands before receiving Communion with the sanitizer provided.
- There will be three designated, single-file Communion lines. Ushers will assist in indicating when each

pew/seating are may join the line. Each station is specific to a seating group so please do not jump to a shorter line.

- Maintain 6-foot physical distance between each communicant.
- When receiving the Eucharist, the communicant will step up to the Priest or Minister with their mask on to receive Holy Communion, and then will step to the marked space on the right, remove their mask, and receive the Precious Body of Christ. Afterwards, communicant will put mask back on.
- Each Minister of Communion will have the necessary items for sanitation in accordance with Diocesan Protocol. If there is any physical contact between the communicant and the Priest/Minister, the minister will place the plate/ciborium on the table, rinse and sanitize their hands before resuming.

PROCEDURES FOR DEPARTURE

- Parishioners should exit the church/quad immediately after Communion.
- All exits of the church/quad will be used for departure.
- Donations/offerings may be deposited in the baskets before or after Mass.
- The Basilica will be closed for the Live Stream Mass starting at 11:30.
- Parishioners are asked not to gather after Mass but to return directly to their vehicles. The bathroom and seating will be sanitized for the next Mass.

AFTER MASS

- If you develop symptoms of COVID-19 or test positive, within 72 hours of attending Mass or drive-through communion, please contact our Business Manager, Stan Schonberg (510) 995-9411. Your report will be treated with the utmost confidentiality. We provide contact information for people that were in your same seating group to public health officials if required to do so.

PROCEDURES FOR CLEANING

- We have expanded our custodial schedule to allow for coverage before, during and after each Mass.
- At the conclusion of every Mass, our custodian will wipe down and lock the bathroom, sanitize the seating and all other high touch areas.
- Church doors/quad gates will be propped open both before and after Mass to minimize touching of door handles.
- Parishioners are always reminded to follow the CDC recommendations.

CLERGY INSTRUCTIONS

- After Mass, Priest/Deacon will sanitize his hands prior to distributing Holy Communion to the Faithful.
- The Priest/Deacon will wear a Mask for the distribution of communion.
- If the Priest, Deacon or Eucharistic Minister's hands touch the communicant they will disinfect before continuing.

MASS AND CONFESSION SCHEDULE

- **5PM Saturday Vigil – Public** by Reservation – Outdoor in the SJND Quad – dress warmly (starting June 27th)
- **9:30AM Sunday – Public** By Reservation – Outdoor in SJND Quad – dress for weather (starting June 21st at 50 person capacity increasing to 100 on June 27th)
- **Noon Sunday – Live Stream** from Basilica – closed to public, but all welcome to participate online via [youtube/c/stjosephbasilica](https://www.youtube.com/c/stjosephbasilica)
- **Daily 11am** from chapel (clergy only) - Livestreamed via Facebook
- **Drive through Communion** – 2:00 – 3:00 Sundays – see our website for specific instructions.
- **Confessions** Saturday from 3:30 – 5:00PM or by appointment in the vestibule of the Basilica