

Returning to Mass at Saint Stephen Protomartyr

WHAT TO EXPECT

Dear friends,

Thank you for taking the time to read this informational sheet before you attend Mass with social distancing guidelines in place. Mass will look different and might be awkward at first for everyone, including myself. It may help us to keep in mind the reason we are doing things differently. In this unusual time, these modifications are an expression of our love and care for one another. I appreciate your patience and cooperation as we come together for Mass, with measures in place to minimize risks to everyone.

Peace, Fr. Ron

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE



We are required to limit the number of people in church. To make a reservation, please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040848AFAA2DAAFA7-sunday1>. Call Mary Regan at 314-481-1133, Option #2, if you prefer to reserve by phone.



For the safety of yourself and others, please stay at home if you are ill or are running a temperature.



Make sure you have a mask or face covering to bring and wear.

Please use your restroom at home. The restroom at church will be closed except for emergencies.



Please plan to arrive 15 minutes prior to the start of Mass to be seated. As we all get seated, maybe we can use this time to appreciate our beautiful worship space. She has missed us as much as we have missed her!

WHEN YOU ARRIVE



We will be using only the main doors of church. Please wait outside to be checked in by a greeter.



Please keep your face covering or mask on at all times, except for the moments when you are consuming the host.



Ushers will direct you to your pew. Pews have been assigned to maintain safety and social distancing, while accommodating as many people as possible.



If you are bringing a contribution, please leave it in the basket provided at the entrance. (Thank you for your generosity.) To maintain social distancing there will not be an offertory collection.

DURING MASS



Even though we are wearing masks, please don't forget to sing!



Please refrain from physical touching at the sign of peace, you may certainly extend peace to those around you through a nod or a raising of hands in blessing.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMMUNION:

- ◇ *Distribution of Communion may take a little longer; that extra time may be used as an opportunity to sit and be with Jesus.*
- ◇ *You will be directed by an usher when it is your turn to join the Communion procession. Take your missal and personal items with you.*
- ◇ *Please maintain 6 feet social distancing during the Communion procession. There are marks on the floor to aid you.*
- ◇ *Please wait to approach Fr. Ron or the Eucharistic Minister until the person in front of you has moved to the side. Please keep your face covering on.*
- ◇ *For health reasons, at this time distribution of Communion will only be in the hand.*
- ◇ *After receiving the Body of Christ, move 6 feet to the right or left. Pull your mask down and then consume the host.*
- ◇ *You may then safely replace your mask or face covering.*



After you receive Communion please proceed up the side aisle to the back of church and leave through the main doors of the church.



Please be sure you have all your personal items with you, including your missal.

AFTER MASS



As happy as we are to see one another and come together as a community again, we ask that you please do not congregate in front of the church doors so that those behind you may exit safely.



In consideration of others, please continue to wear your mask until you leave the area where other parishioners are.

May God bless us and keep us safe!