



Hello Everyone,

It is wonderful to see many of our winter parishioners returning and our church filling up again for Mass. So, now is a good time to update everyone regarding our continuing battle with Covid-19. Our Bishop has allowed us to have public Masses under Phase II protocols, which include wearing masks, social distancing, and limited seating. He dispensed everyone in the Diocese of Tucson from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, so anyone who is not feeling well, is at risk due to age or health or feels uncomfortable for any reason should stay home and watch live streaming. In addition, he has allowed us to celebrate the Sunday Liturgy any time from Friday morning to Monday evening. Attendance at these Masses and is considered as having attended Sunday Mass. Recently, in anticipation of increased attendance, we sent out a survey asking for input concerning the best time to add additional Masses, and the time has come to do so.

Our Sunday 10:00 am Mass is at or over the capacity established by our Covid-19 protocols. So, we will schedule 1 additional Mass on Sunday and celebrate the Sunday Mass on the preceding Friday at 9:00 am. This will begin this coming Friday Nov. 13th. We will also add a Mass on Sunday at 1:00 pm beginning next Sunday Nov. 15th. The 4:00 pm Mass on Saturday, the 10:00 am English and 11:30 am Spanish Mass will continue as usual.

I am asking that those currently attending the 10:00 am Mass consider either the 4:00 pm on Saturday, the 9:00 am on Friday or the 1:00 pm on Sunday. This will allow us to serve as many parishioners as possible and still follow the required Phase II Covid-19 protocols. I know that many have a favorite Mass, and some feel Sunday is the only proper time to celebrate the Lord's Day. However, I ask you to please consider the extraordinary conditions we are living under and to make an exception to allow all who wish to attend Mass in person to do so.

Thank you for your understanding and your incredible support during this historic and difficult time. God Bless you, stay safe and please follow the protocols to assure we can keep St. John Neumann open for public liturgical celebrations.