

# The Coronavirus Pandemic and Regina Caeli Parish

## A Recap of Significant Dates

*For more details on the impact of the pandemic on the parish, see [Looking Back: 2020](#).*

### Year 2020

- Mar. 13 Gov. Abbott issues covid disaster proclamation covering the State of Texas.
- Mar. 18 Cardinal DiNardo closes parishes to celebration of public Masses and parish activities.
- Mar. 19 Gov. Abbott issues Executive Order 8 closing the State of Texas in accordance with federal guidelines. Harris County Commissioners Court (HCCC) issues stay home red alert restrictions for Harris County.
- Apr. 27 Gov. Abbott issues Executive Order 18 to begin re-opening the State of Texas to allow entities to operate at 25% capacity. HCCC keeps stay home red alert restrictions.
- Apr. 29 Cardinal DiNardo allows resumption of public Masses, subject to 25% capacity and observance of pandemic protocols, effective May 3 or May 10, at pastor's discretion.
- May 3 Masses resume at parish at 25% capacity. Fr. Van Vliet adds two Sunday Masses and institutes a Sunday Mass reservation system to allow parishioners to sign up for Sunday Mass and be assured of a seat.
- Sept. 17 Gov. Abbott issues Executive Order 30 further expanding operating capacity of businesses and allowing full capacity at places of worship. HCCC keeps stay home red alert restrictions. Cardinal DiNardo allows pastor discretion whether to increase seating capacity while maintaining pandemic protocols.
- Sept. 20 Fr. Van Vliet increases seating capacity from 100 to 160 persons for most Masses and ends livestreaming of Masses Oct. 17.

### Year 2021

- Mar. 15 Gov. Abbott issues Executive Order 34 opening all businesses to full capacity and removing mask mandates. HCCC keeps stay home red alert restrictions.
- May 19 HCCC changes restrictions to minimize contacts orange alert level. Cardinal DiNardo announces lifting of Sunday dispensation, pandemic protocols and suspension of parish activities, effective evening Vigil of Pentecost, May 22.