

**Dear friends,**

**First,** last week I announced that there would be a drop off ballot box in front of the Church. For more than 30 years, the parish has hosted a polling center in our sacristy to assist people with voting. Since we cannot have the polling center this year due to Covid-19 liability, I thought a ballot drop off box would be a great service for the community, especially for our elderly who have a hard time getting out or are very cautious because of the Covid virus. Since I received some negative reaction—much of it misinformation—to the drop off ballot box—I had the ballot drop off box removed on Tuesday.

**Second,** we had public Masses in our Church building and live streamed to other alternate sites (the patio and the parish hall) for the first time in three months. It was so wonderful to be back into the Church and to worship with you.

**As with last week, please take note of the Mass times, the locations and the protocols for the Masses and Confessions.**

### **WEEKEND MASS AND CONFESSION SCHEDULE**

**Saturday Confessions:** 3:00—4:45 pm (outside on the east side of Church)

**Saturday Masses:** 8:30 AM, Vigil 5:00 PM (English) & 7:30 PM (Spanish: outside on the north parking lot).

**Sunday Masses:** 6:00, 7:00, 9:00 (live stream to homes), 11:00 AM, 1:00 (Spanish live stream to homes), 5:00 PM and 7:00 pm (Spanish: outside on the north parking lot).

**Eucharistic Adoration:** there will be Eucharistic Adoration for Teens in the Church after the 5:00 p.m. Sunday Mass, and after the 7:00 p.m. Sunday Spanish Mass on the north parking lot. Daily Eucharistic Adoration in Church chapel.

## **DAILY MASS SCHEDULE**

Monday—Friday: 8:30AM & 5:30 PM

## **DAILY CONFESSION SCHEDULE (outside):**

Monday and Wednesday: 9:00—10:00 AM on west side patio of the Church

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 4:00—5:00 PM on east side of the Church

## **BEFORE ATTENDING MASS AT ST. ROSE OF LIMA, HERE ARE A FEW ITEMS YOU NEED TO REMEMBER:**

### **MASS ATTENDANCE**

Since only a 100 people can be in the Church at any given time, rather than have people make reservations and take numbers, the parish has decided to do the following:

- 1) All people who desire to go to Mass in the Church can only enter the church building by the front doors of the Church (Royal Avenue side)—all other doors will be locked with signs on them directing them to the front doors.
- 2) There will be SIGNS on the front of the church reminding the people:
  - a. Only 100 people will be admitted
  - b. Must wear a mask (masks will be provided if people don't have one)
  - c. Sanitize hands with hand sanitizers at the doors.
  - d. Sit in designated areas to maintain social distancing (the church building has been taped off to provide for social distancing).
  - e. At Communion, maintain social distance and receive communion in the hand.
- 3) There will be sanitizers and extra masks at the front doors of the church.
- 4) Ushers with masks and gloves will be at the front door to greet the people.

They will kindly ask each person if they have any cough or fever. If anyone does, they will be asked not to enter the Church. The ushers also will make sure that everyone will be wearing a mask. Masks will be provided for them if they did not bring one.

5) The ushers will count the people entering. When the number reaches 100, the ushers will offer the people wishing to attend Mass two options:

- a. Go to the patio on the west side of the Church where chairs will be set up with proper social distancing and they can listen to the Mass; or
- b. Go to the parish hall where the Mass will be live streamed.
  - i. Again, ushers there will make sure that everyone is wearing a mask and that the people will sit in chairs that are arranged for the proper social distancing.
- c. For the alternative locations, an E.M. will bring communion to the people at communion time.

### **PLEASE BE EARLY**

Please plan to arrive early. We recommend arriving 20 minutes early for Sunday Mass, and 20 minutes for daily Mass to ensure Mass can start on time. The doors of the Church will be closed and locked once 100 people have entered the Church.

### **LIMITED ATTENDANCE IN THE CHURCH**

For weekday Masses, everyone will enter through the sacristy door on the west side of the building (the rest of the church doors will be locked) to control the numbers of people attending (no more than 100).

For Sunday Masses, only the front doors of the church building on Royal Ave. will be open as a point of entry and only 100 people will be admitted. However, we do have alternative worship spaces.

### **ALTERNATIVE WORSHIP SPACES**

If more than 100 people show up for Mass, they will be directed to go either to the patio on the west side of the Church where chairs will be set

up under tents with proper social distancing and the Mass will be live streamed on a large screen TV with sound; **OR** they can go to the parish hall where the Mass also will be live streamed on TVs. Again, ushers at both alternative places will make sure that everyone sanitizes their hands and wear a mask. People will sit in chairs with the proper social distancing. For the alternative locations, an E.M. will bring communion to the people at communion time.

### **LIMITED RESTROOM FACILITIES**

The restrooms inside of the Church will be available, but only in a case of urgent need. Please plan accordingly. All others can go to the parish hall and use those bathroom facilities.

### **SAFETY IS OUR TOP CONCERN**

At all Masses, we will be strictly observing safety precautions, including:

- 1) The church has undergone a thorough cleaning and disinfecting process prior to opening.
- 2) The congregation at each Mass in the church building and the alternative locations will be limited to 100 people.
- 3) Face masks will be required (no one will be admitted without a face mask).
- 4) Proper social distancing inside and outside the church will be enforced.
- 5) We are cleaning the church and the alternative worship spaces after EVERY Mass. So, we will need everyone to leave promptly after service to allow time to do so.

For the safety of all, we are committed to following the guidelines set for us by the City, County and State. These, together with directives from the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, form the basis of our plan.

### **NO OBLIGATION TO ATTEND MASS PHYSICALLY IF....**

Please note that Archbishop Jose Gomez's dispensation of the Sunday Mass obligation is still in effect. Any person, who does not feel comfortable or safe attending Mass, is not required to attend Mass physically. In fact, anyone, who is not well or is in a high-risk group

(those 65 years of age or older as well as those with preexisting medical conditions), should NOT yet return to Mass. We will live stream our Sunday 9 AM Mass in English and 1:00 p.m. in Spanish for those at home.

## **OTHER IMPORTANT ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

**The Beauty of the Mass:** this week, I continue with the **fourth installment** of “The Beauty of the Mass” on our website. I believe that it will help you get a better understanding and a deeper love and appreciation for the Mass.

**“Current Event”** Check out this week’s article in our **“Current Event”** section on our website.

**Evangelization: There are two online faith formation events this fall that the entire parish should know about.**

The first is an online **Alpha program** that began on **Thursday, September 24th from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Pacific time.** At this time, most of the parish knows about the Alpha program. It is an 11-week course that dives deeply into the central proclamation of the Christian faith in an open and welcoming environment. It is the perfect place for parishioners to invite family members and friends to explore the deep questions in life: What are we created for? What gives us happiness?...But most of all, Alpha gives you a chance to encounter Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit.

The great thing about an online **Alpha** is it allows you to invite those you know who would never come to St. Rose for an event due to caution of distance. Attendees online know they have a certain distance that could help them try something they would never do in person. They don't even need to live in Simi. They can live in Alaska, the backwoods of Maine or deep in the bayou and still get online to share in this faith experience. I want to encourage those of you who have not attended an

Alpha yourself to attend, and to ask anyone you know who is looking for more out of life, and the answers to many of life's big questions, to consider attending for a session or two and see if it is for them.

Attendees can begin

up to the third week of the series on October 8th.

The second session is training on the **Great Story of Jesus**. Bishop Barron challenges us to become a friend of Jesus and to get to know Jesus better. One way is by viewing the GREAT STORY OF JESUS. The series had an introduction session on Monday, September 14th and got rolling with the first session, September 21st. **Look for the registration links soon on the website and bulletin, or email name and address to [alpha@strosesv.com](mailto:alpha@strosesv.com).**

**St. Rose of Lima Catholic Grade School—Grades K-5 started this past week on Wednesday. Our Middle School (6-8) still has not received permission to start in-class instructions.** We know that there are many families who are frustrated because their children cannot attend in-school instructions and because they are worried about the radical secular agenda being pushed by the public school system (i.e. promoting the theory of systemic racism, defunding police, radical sexual re-education and gender theory, etc.). Our wonderful school is not affected by this radical agenda. Also we still have space for more students. If you are interested, please call the school at **805-526-5304** or go on the **St. Rose of Lima School website: [srls.org](http://srls.org)**

**Religious Education:** For those children are not attending a Catholic School, parents should enroll their children in our wonderful Religious Education Program to assist the parents in giving their children a great Catholic education/formation. This year we have restored Grades 3-5 Religious Education. To register, your child(ren), please go to the RE website [dre@strosesv.com](mailto:dre@strosesv.com) or contact **Pauline Simpson at 805-526-5513.**

**Confirmation:** For our high school young people who have not received their Confirmation, we are starting on-line registration for Confirmation preparation. To register, please go to RE website [dre@strosesv.com](mailto:dre@strosesv.com) or contact Pauline Simpson at 805-526-5513.

**St. Rose of Lima Christian Service:** Our Christian Service is in real need of canned goods and other basic supplies (diapers, baby wipes, etc). If you have fruit trees in your yard with extra fruit, please bring the fruit to the Christian Service garage.

**Votive Candles:** Votive Candles are available for purchase at the rectory or in the Mother Cabrini Gift Shop in the Church vestibule. Since Governor's Newsom's restrictions are still in effect, once a candle is purchased, a priest can bless the candle(s) and a staff member will take the candle(s) to the Church, light the candle(s) and place them in the candles holders in front of the Blessed Mother or Sacred Heart Shrines. The sale of our votive candles helps fund the Msgr. Sylvester Ryan Scholarship Fund.

**For any Baptism, Marriage, or Funeral, please contact the rectory (805-526-1732) to make arrangements.**

Also please be sure to keep hydrated, cool and safe during these hot days. Also know that we are praying for you, especially those who can't join us physically because of age or compromised health issues. May God bless you!

Yours in Christ,  
*Fr. Joseph Shea*