



Mass Notes

As we near the end of August, it has been almost three months since we've returned to in-person Mass. We want to keep you all updated on how our Mass attendance is going and the measures we are taking to make sure everyone who attends is safe.

We: Take temperatures with an infrared thermometer at the entrances of the church.

Require everyone to wear a mask. So far we have only had one person refuse and he was not a parishioner.

Ask everyone to sign in so if anything would happen we would be able to contact them to let them know.

Cord off every other pew to ensure social distancing.

Limit the number of ministers on the sanctuary and distributing communion to reduce exposure to Fr. Bill and parishioners when they come up to receive communion.

Have tape strips six feet apart in all the aisles as guides for social distancing when coming up for communion and leaving the church.

Have hand sanitizing stations at all the doors and in the center aisle so parishioners can sanitize their hands when they enter the church, before they receive communion, and as they leave the church.

Ask that everyone receive communion in the hand to avoid Fr. Bill's hands from touching any saliva and the need to stop and sanitize his hands while communion is being distributed.

Limit the music ministry to a musician (Tom) and add a cantor when someone is available to sing. We hope to have the Bells of St. Mary Choir return in the autumn. We do not have any missalettes or worship aids in the pews. We are using the Aquos Board to display the words to the songs the congregation sings during Mass.

Our capacity in church with social distancing is 120 people. Attendance numbers for this week:

Attendance/Weekend

65 - Saturday, 4:30 pm Mass

93 - Sunday, 9:45 am Mass

36 - Sunday, 6:30 pm Mass

Attendance - Weekday

12 - Monday, 5:30 pm

3 - Tuesday, 5:30 pm

35 - Wednesday, 12:05 pm

25 - Thursday, 12:05 pm

We will be adding the early morning Sunday Mass beginning on September 13th. The Mass will be at 7:45 am so that we can clean the church, hallways, and bathrooms, and be ready to open for the 9:45 am Mass no later than 9:10 am.

Thanks to everyone for cooperating and supporting these measures so we can keep our parish family as safe as possible. The feedback we've received from parishioners has helped us make improvements along the way. If there is anything else we can do to create a safer environment, please let us know.