

July 6, 2020

Dear Our Lady of Lourdes Parishioners:

We are thrilled to once again be able to offer the public celebration of Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes. Although Mass does look and feel much different under the new Covid-19 guidelines we can't tell you how good it is to see you and how much it means to be back together in worship. We also recognize that many of you must continue to watch Mass from the safety of your home. Know that you are prayed for, and that we hope and pray for a time when we can all be together again in the same space during worship.

For the safety of all, our parish staff has worked hard to learn and implement all of the new safety guidelines involved with carefully celebrating public Mass. Now that we are confident in our ability, we must begin training and relying on the help of volunteers to continue offering Masses each week. If you have weighed the risks to your own health, and have decided to attend the public celebration of Mass, would you consider volunteering in one of the following ways?

Sign In Registrar (2 Registrar Positions per Mass)

Although you will be trained to all of the specifics, the main duty of the Sign In Registrar is to see that guests arriving for Mass have pre-registered and are signed up for the appropriate number of Communion hosts. Registrars will also ensure guests have completed the health screening, are wearing face coverings and have properly sanitized before entering the worship space. Guests who arrive but have NOT pre-registered will be given a card with instructions of how to sign up for a future Mass. Registrars are asked to arrive ½ hour early for Mass and must wear a face covering at all times. Registrars are automatically signed up to attend Mass once all guests have been registered and seated.

Usher (3 Ushers Positions per Mass)

Although you will be trained to all of the specifics, the main duties of ushers are as follows: While maintaining social distancing, and while wearing a face covering, ushers are asked to seat families and individual guests in the designated seating areas. Ushers are asked to arrive at Mass ½ hour early to begin seating guests once they register. Ushers will prop open exit doors ahead of Communion and release rows one-by-one for Communion. Two ushers will secure offertory proceeds in the safe after Mass. Lastly, we ask that ushers monitor emergency bathroom use and help sanitize it if necessary during Mass, as well as help to sanitize the pews, kneelers and high traffic areas immediately following Mass.

Lector (1 Lector position per Mass)

During the current Covid-19 restrictions, we ask Lectors to read both the first and second readings at Mass. In order to comply with social distancing regulations, a new pathway to the ambo has been designated that must be observed. You may remove your face covering once you have reached the ambo and only while you read. Please ensure your face covering is put back into place before leaving the Ambo itself.

Eucharistic Minister (as needed)

Eucharistic Ministers will be needed during times when a Deacon is not assisting at Mass. Fr. Woody will train Eucharistic Ministers on the proper Covid-19 related procedures upon arriving at Mass. Eucharistic Ministers are asked to arrive at Mass ½ hour early and wear face coverings at all times.

We thank you in advance for the consideration you will give in determining whether now is a time when you are able to volunteer at Mass. Your health is our top priority, and we fully understand if you cannot. Once you have considered this request, please notify Lisa Quimby if you are able to serve in one or more of the volunteer positions outlined above. Once Lisa receives your notification she will place you into a pool of volunteers and you will receive a quarterly schedule which includes the days you have been scheduled to serve. You will be given an opportunity to reschedule times when you will be unavailable, and the opportunity to specify which Mass times you can serve. You can email Lisa Quimby of your intention to serve at lisa@ollparish.org. You can also call the Parish Office at 360-695-1366 to leave a message of your intention to serve and or with questions

With Gratitude,

The Parish Staff