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## Father Dan's Bulletin Column for Sunday, May 24, 2020

### MANY UPDATES ON OUR "CATHOLIC COMEBACK" PLANS!

We are eagerly preparing for the re-start of public Masses next weekend! Here are a few updates on our re-opening plans:

- Since we cannot use hymnals due to people touching and re-using them, we are installing some new projection screens in the sanctuary so that the readings and song lyrics can be projected on the screen for all to see. If all goes well, our goal is to have the screens installed for our opening next weekend.
- For those who want to come to Mass at church, **you must sign up for a spot in advance** due to the fact that attendance at each Mass is limited to 25% of the church's capacity. You can only come to Mass if you have registered for a spot in advance. To sign up online, go to our website [www.stleonards.org](http://www.stleonards.org) and click on the reservation link. If you do not have internet, you can call **our reservation hotline at 262-392-8212**. You will be asked your Mass time and the total number of people in your household attending.
  - You must reserve a spot each week.
  - The reservation system opens up at 9am every Tuesday, starting this Tuesday, May 26
  - Our new Mass times are Saturday at 5pm and Sunday at 7am, 9:15am and 11:30am

Please take note of all of the following procedures we will follow based on the Archbishop's "Catholic Comeback" directives:

#### BEFORE MASS

- Determine whether you should come to Mass in-person. It is advised that you consult with your own doctor about your own health situation and personal risk. For your own protection, Archbishop Listecki said this:

*"All those as defined by the health department as more vulnerable (i.e. 60+ years of age, those with compromised immune systems, those with underlying health conditions, those who are especially anxious about being in a large group, etc.) should be encouraged to stay at home."*

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For those who choose to stay at home, I am very happy to say that **we will continue to provide live-stream Mass every Sunday at 9:15am on our Facebook page even after public Masses resume.** Our live-stream weekend Mass also will continue to include the ability to follow along with songs and readings.

**The Archbishop has given a dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass through July 5.**

- We will be cleaning & sanitizing the entire church, gathering space, and bathrooms after every Mass which will require more time between Masses. Therefore our new Sunday Mass times will be **7:00am, 9:15am and 11:30am starting May 30-31.** The Saturday Mass will still be at 5pm. The Sunday 9:15am Mass will be live-streamed on our Facebook page.
- Feel free to bring your own hand sanitizer with you to use right before Communion. We will provide disinfecting wipes in the hymnal racks. Please dispose of used wipes in the bags provided. Hand sanitizer is also available at all the entrances.

### AS YOU COME INTO CHURCH:

- The doors for the church will open 15 minutes before each Mass time. You must enter through the main Gathering Space doors, not through the side doors. Please use the hand sanitizer at the entrances.
- We will not be passing the collection basket during the offertory. Instead, we will put a large basket in the gathering space for you to drop off your contributions before Mass begins. We will also place baskets on the sanctuary steps for you to drop in your contribution during the offertory time.
- Social distancing is required. This means keeping a minimum of 6 feet of distance between anyone who does not live in the same household. When you are in your pew, you must be at least 6 feet away from another family in the same pew who lives in another household. Places where you should not sit will be crossed with tape to keep the 6 feet of distance between each family.
- Seating will be in every third pew so that 2 pews in front of you and behind you will be blocked off. Keep in mind that you will probably not be able to sit in your "usual" pew. I know that Catholics are creatures of habit and tend to sit in the exact same pew that they've always sat in, but now we all need to be aware of choosing the "right size" pew to fit your family size. Signs will be on the ends of the pews to advise you on how many people should be at the end of each pew. The shorter pews can have 1-3 people at each end. The longer pews can have 3-5 people at each end. Larger families can use an entire pew.
- Everyone age 4 and up is **required** to wear a face mask or face covering. The purpose of a face mask isn't so much for your own protection but for the protection of people around you. The coronavirus spreads through tiny droplets that come out of a person while they speak, sing, cough or sneeze. A mask helps to prevent the droplets from spreading. Please have the courtesy to wear a mask for the benefit of the people around you! Fr. John and I will be wearing a mask when giving out Communion in order to protect you. Please wear a mask to protect me and all your fellow parishioners!

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**DURING MASS**

- When you come forward for Communion, please keep your mask on. After the priest gives you Communion, please take a few steps to the side or go back to your pew where you can remove your mask and give yourself Communion. And then put your mask back on your face.
- Communion will only be the host (no chalices) and for your safety Communion is only given in the hand, not on the tongue.
- At this time, only the priest can give out Communion. The priest will go to each section and each family will come forward, keeping at least 6 feet of distance between people from different households.
- Dismissal at the end of Mass will be similar to how you disembark from an airplane. People will be dismissed pew by pew starting with the back of the church. You will need to leave the building immediately after Mass so that the cleaning crew can begin the process of sanitizing for the next Mass.

Only weekend Mass can be public. Weekday Masses will still be private. We will continue to live-stream our weekday Masses on our Facebook page on Tuesday through Friday at Noon

Thank you for your continued prayers & support as we work through this challenging new reality. Stay tuned because things seem to change quickly. God will get us through this!