

17 September 2020

Saint Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Dear Friends,

This Saturday, September 19th, at 5:00 p.m., two of our parishioners—Marco Albán and Michael Cantu—will be instituted as Acolytes. This is one of the final steps before—God-willing—they are ordained Deacons this December. An Acolyte ministers by assisting the priest during Mass. You will see them from time-to-time assisting me during Masses this fall.

If you'd like to watch Archbishop receive them into this ministry, the liturgy will be livestreamed on the website of St. Jude Catholic Church in Redmond (<https://www.stjude-redmond.org/>). Please pray for our deacon candidates, their wives and families, and all the deacon candidates preparing to serve our Archdiocese!

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When we began gathering for public Masses once again in June, and indoor Masses in July, we started off by offering a Saturday Vigil and two Sunday morning Masses. Our hope was that things would improve enough over the summer that by the fall we would be able to return to offering additional Masses with increased capacity.

Since we are still operating under the same conditions, we have decided to continue with the schedule that we have been offering thus far. We will consider adding additional Masses and/or adjusting times when circumstances allow us to do so. Thank you for your understanding that we aren't yet able to offer all the same Mass times we did previously.

Additionally, I'm grateful for how well the Masses have gone! Thank you for your attention to the safety protocols and being flexible when changes have come along. As a reminder, if you or someone you have close contact with is not feeling well or experiencing any kind of illness or symptoms, please do not come to Mass.

Before coming to Mass or to the Church, please do this self-assessment:

- In the last 14 days, have I or someone I have close contact with experienced...
 - ...a fever or chills?
 - ...a cough, sore throat, congestion, or runny nose?
 - ...shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing?
 - ...a new loss of taste or smell?
 - ...fatigue or new severe muscle or body aches?
 - ...nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea?

If you or someone you have close contact with answer "yes" to any of these questions, please contact your health care provider, and also take care of yourself and others by staying home and not coming to Mass or to the Church.

Finally, as far as we can tell, our current schedule of three Masses has allowed enough capacity for all who are wanting to come to Mass at this time. If you find that Mass signups are already full and you have not been able to come to Mass in person, please contact the Parish Office so that we can reserve a spot for you at the next available Mass.

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Let's keep praying for peace and unity, and let's keep on making personal decisions each day with our own thoughts, words, and actions that contribute to peace and unity in our world!

Mary, Queen of Peace, pray for us!

Fr. Chad Green