

DAILY MORNING MASSES RESUME JUNE 8TH, 2020

The Archdiocese has given permission to resume only weekday Masses beginning June 8th. Weekend Masses WILL NOT be starting until a later date, to be determined. Therefore, Archbishop Blair has extended the dispensation from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass until Sept. 6th, 2020. We will return to our regular weekday schedule as follows:

Monday and Friday at 8:30 a.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton
Tuesday and Thursday at 8:00 a.m. at St. James

Who Can Attend?

1. 50 people can attend (no exception)
2. Once capacity reached: doors closed and secured.
3. Strict admittance restrictions enforced
 - 65 years old and up **SHOULD NOT** attend
 - Those with pre-existing health issues, any vulnerability, fear, or anxiety **MUST NOT** attend
 - Caretakers of infirm **MUST NOT** attend
 - Any person in contact with someone diagnosed with covid-19 **MUST NOT** attend
 - You **MUST NOT** attend if you have any symptoms of covid-19
 - You will be asked to return home if there are indications of symptoms

Before Mass

1. Mask/covering **MUST** be worn (bring your own)
 - From vehicle throughout Mass (except briefly at communion) to return to vehicle
 - Cover your nose and mouth
 - Required from age 3 and up.
2. Bring your own hand sanitizer (very limited supplies at church)
3. Main church doors will open 15 minutes prior to Mass.
 - you will be asked to sign in and phone number
 - you will be screened and seated
 - At St. James only: rear main doors will be open for entry (parish center side)
4. No congregating at any time
5. **Absolute 6 feet social distancing** always
6. You will be seated at designated pew/seat marked with blue tape
7. Restrooms will be restricted (except for an emergency...come prepared)

During Mass

1. Wear Mask/covering **always** (except briefly at communion)
2. 6 feet social distancing **always** (seated or processing)
3. No touching: hand holding or kiss of peace
4. Be attentive to precise instructions for reception of Holy Communion in the hand.
5. No gloves at communion time.
6. No Holy Communion from the cup
7. Refrain from using restrooms (they are most susceptible to spread of virus)
8. Cry room is closed/ Fr. Shea Hall closed
9. No holy water in fonts

10. No missalettes, hymnals, bulletins, booklets, programs, etc.
11. No standing along walls, or aisles

Leaving Mass

1. Attendees will be dismissed row by row...6 feet apart
2. No congregating...return to vehicles directly
3. DO NOT congregate around candle stands/statues/shrines/tabernacle
4. DO NOT remove mask until in your vehicle
5. Those who may want to remain to recite Rosary: stay in seat and maintain social distancing and allow others to leave building
6. Weekly Eucharistic Adoration will resume, later, date to be determined.

Additional Information

1. Sacrament of Reconciliation may resume in mid to late June. We need to figure out logistics and safety measures.
2. Our Sunday 9:00 a.m. Mass live streamed on Facebook will continue along with the Archdiocesan TV Masses on your local TV stations.
3. Parish office is open by appointment from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. wear a mask and social distance.

On a more personal level, I am 65 years old and fall in the category of risk and vulnerability. If I had a choice, which I do not, I would opt to remain home until there is a safer way to return to Mass. I have minor pre-existing health conditions; therefore, I ask that you try to plan about your attending Mass that will not impact me or Deacon Michael, especially at Holy Communion time.

I realize these directives may be startling and cut-and-dry, but necessary to enter a more open church with safety and responsibility for the welfare of all parishioners. And so, we pray for your patience, understanding and indulgence, as you make the wisest decision about coming to church. Finally, if you do come to Mass you may want to come less frequently to give other healthy parishioners a chance to attend.

Peace and blessings!
Fr George Couturier