

June 3, 2020



Dear Holy Spirit Parishioners,

We are preparing for the time when we will be able to gather again to celebrate Mass. It is a hope-filled time, but our first and foremost concern is for your health and safety.

All of our preparations are aligned with the Diocesan guidelines for local parishes to follow. These in turn are in line with the recommendations of the W.H.O., the C.D.C. and state/local authorities. For example, we will be carefully sanitizing the church between Masses.

Some of our Parish Family may be fearful of being exposed to the virus or are vulnerable members of our community who have been advised to continue to shelter-in-place (age 65+ with underlying health conditions). Please be assured, Bishop Vasa continues to grant you dispensation from your Sunday obligation to physically attend Mass.

We will continue to record Sunday Mass each week and upload it to the Parish YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCquuu16w8ZUE14rZZUed6QQ>. We encourage everyone not physically attending Mass to join in watching Mass online, to set aside time for prayer and to make a spiritual communion. Families with young children may want to continue watching Mass online as face-coverings are required for everyone over 2 years of age, and social distancing must be maintained. *(Some days it is a bit more difficult for children to refrain from running to those they love for a high five or an embrace!)*

Once we receive the go-ahead from both Sonoma County health officials and the Diocese, we anticipate Mass initially will be available for only 100 people per Mass to comply with the social distancing requirement. ***When permitted, the Mass schedule will be:***

Saturday at 7 p.m., Sunday at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. and Monday -Thursday, at 1 p.m.

Since seating is limited we have set up a survey for our Parishioners to request their 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices for attending Mass. Please see the parish website <http://holyspirit-sr.org> to use *SurveyMonkey* to complete the online survey or you may complete the enclosed form. ***PLEASE NOTE – very important – we must receive your survey online or in the Parish Office mail slot no later than Wednesday, June 10th.***

After the surveys are turned in, the team will compile the Mass times and send you a notification as to which Mass you are assigned. **Please do not arrive at Mass without an allotted reservation.**

Now, for the nuts and bolts: When you arrive at Church on your allocated day and time, be sure to wear a face-covering as you exit your vehicle. Proceed to the Mary door: The Mary door is the door at the front of church to the left of the altar, near the statues of Mary in the courtyard and in church. ***This will be the only door to enter and exit the church.***

Specific instructions will be provided as you arrive, but here is a summary of what to expect:

- You will be required to wear a face-covering from the time you exit your vehicle until you return to it. At the Mary door before entering Church, you will be asked to use hand sanitizer, which will be provided, and a touchless forehead temperature scan will be taken. It shows a smile if your temperature is within acceptable limits ;)
- Seating is arranged to maintain the required physical distancing - six feet away from others who do not live in the same household. The pews are marked with blue tape where you may sit, three to a pew, or in the chairs at the back, as well as wheelchair locations identified. Families (people living in the same household) may sit together in specially designated areas.
- Holy Communion, the Body of Christ only, will be distributed at the end of Mass by the Mary door as you leave. Specific instructions will be given at each Mass.
- All Mass responses will be spoken and there will be no singing. The Sign of Peace will be a nod or gentle wave to others. The Holy Water fonts remain empty and all printed materials have been removed... so no bulletins or missalettes, however bulletins are available on the parish website or can be requested to be mailed from the parish office.
- The restrooms will be open - Please maintain six feet distance while in line to use the restrooms, as marked on the floor. The drinking fountain is closed.
- Volunteers will sanitize Church between all Masses.

I realize this is a lot to take in and appreciate the love and support you have shown our staff and each other as we move forward with preparations that will allow us to safely celebrate Mass together.

Thank you for your patience. Be safe and be kind to one another.

Fr. Ron



HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

If you wish to attend Mass in person, you must register by completing this survey online using *SurveyMonkey* on the parish website <http://holyspirit-sr.org> or by completing this survey form and dropping it in the parish office mail slot.

Indicate your Mass day and time preferences, as well as the number of people in your household attending, including yourself. The Parish must receive your completed form or survey no later than [Wednesday, June 10th](#). We will notify you of your allocated day and time once given the ok to proceed by the Diocese and County.

Last Name: _____ First Name _____

Number of people in your household attending, including yourself: _____

Email: _____ Phone #: _____

Please indicate your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice in the table below - This will act as your reservation request for Mass. If your 1st choice is filled, we will attempt to give you your 2nd or 3rd choice. We will keep your reservation on this consistent basis.

Day/Time	1st	2nd	3rd
Monday, 1:00 p.m.			
Tuesday, 1:00 p.m.			
Wednesday, 1:00 p.m.			
Thursday, 1:00 p.m.			
Saturday, 7:00 p.m.			
Sunday, 8:00 a.m.			
Sunday, 10:30 a.m.			
I will attend Mass online			

Those parishioners who are considered most vulnerable to contracting COVID-19 (those over 65 with underlying health issues compromising their immune systems) are encouraged to continue participating in the online Masses at home.

Peace be with you,

Fr. Ron