



THE ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF PHOENIX

Rising with Christ:

May 8, 2020

The Plan for Restoring Parish Life

PARISHIONER GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING TO RETURN TO PUBLIC MASSES

A Return to Parish Life

The faithful remain dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass.

Be Healthy: Public places on parish campuses are frequently cleaned and sanitized. These are precautionary measures but the risk of coming into contact with the virus remains. It is important for individuals and families to take personal responsibility to protect themselves.

Be Smart: Social distancing and spacing must be practiced by all individuals on parish properties. All are strongly encouraged to follow CDC guidelines for handwashing and hand sanitizer use, as well as recommendations regarding the use of masks or cloth face coverings while in public.

Be Holy: Remember to be patient and kind. Pastors and parishes will do their best to offer Holy Mass, Communion and Confession, but may face challenges because of the health and/or age of priests, deacons, staff and volunteers. This means every parish may do things a little differently.

What is going to be different for now?

- + The number of people in each church is going to be limited based on social distancing and seating capacity.
- + Seating may be assigned or designated to help keep people physically distant.
- + The Sign of Peace will be omitted.
- + Greeting the priest after Mass will be limited.
- + Livestreaming of the Mass will continue and parishes will offer an opportunity for Holy Communion for those unable to attend the public celebration of the Mass.
- + Please continue to stay connected to your parish community through social media and the parish website.

Thank you for your patience during this time and for supporting your parish!

Should I come to Mass?

Each person must make the decision of what is best for themselves and their families.

Stay home if:

- + You are feeling sick or have a fever.
- + You have a sick family member at home or have been recently exposed to someone who may be sick.
- + You are a primary caretaker of a vulnerable person.
- + You have been traveling or in large crowds.
- + You are at risk because of preexisting conditions or age.

Holy Communion

- + Social distancing and spacing of 6 feet must be observed in the Communion line.
- + The preferred method to receive Holy Communion during this time is in the hand. It is safer for you, for the priests, and for everyone receiving Holy Communion.
- + There will be no distribution of the Precious Blood.

Confession

- + Privacy, social distancing and spacing of 6 feet must be observed.