

Guidelines for returning to public Mass at PRESENTATION PARISH

Please know that all four Diocesan Bishops have continued the dispensation to the faithful from the obligation to attend Mass on Sunday. If you choose to attend Mass, please note the following:

Before Mass:

- Those who are symptomatic or who have been exposed to someone with the virus within 14 days are not permitted to enter the church, in accordance with national, state and local health directives. All attendees are asked to check their temperature at home before coming to church.
- Those who are at risk because of an underlying health issue are strongly encouraged, for their own health, to avoid the risk of attending public celebrations of the Mass. Those 60 and older are asked to consider their own health situation before choosing to attend. Those with small children, for whom wearing a mask may be difficult, are asked to refrain from attending or make arrangements for the care of their children.
- Everyone must wear a **mask (please bring your own – the parish will not be providing masks)** upon entering and exiting the church. You must wear your mask at all times during Mass. Masks can only be removed for the brief moment of receiving Holy Communion.
- Bathrooms will be for emergency-use only. Drinking fountains will not be available. Please plan accordingly.

During Mass:

- Please park in the **north parking lot only**. The church doors will be open and a greeter will be present as you enter the church. Hand sanitizer will be available at the entrance, but you can also bring your own. An usher will direct you (and family members) to your designated pew. Families are to maintain six-foot distancing from other families or individuals throughout the celebration of Mass.
- Once in the pew, you are encouraged to keep your mask on. The hymnals have been removed for health reasons. The diocese has asked that there be no congregational singing at this time to reduce the possibility of infection. Songs will be led by a cantor and accompanist.
- There will be no collection baskets passed during Mass and no procession of the gifts. Collection baskets will be placed at the church entrance for your contributions. **We encourage the use of online giving and are grateful for those who continue to do so.**
- During the sign of peace, there is to be no physical contact, except with your immediate family. A simple gesture, such as a nod of the head, is recommended.
- To receive Holy Communion, you will be directed to the appropriate aisle. Please remain 6 feet from others in single file. The aisle will be marked accordingly. When approaching the Communion minister, please stretch out your hands, receive the Host in your hand, step to the side, lower your mask, consume the Host, raise your mask, and return to your pew.
- At this time, distribution of Holy Communion from the chalice is prohibited and Holy Communion will be distributed in the hand in keeping with the advice of the diocese and state health officials and thereby to avoid the Communion minister's fingers coming into contact with saliva or airborne contagion. Gluten-free hosts are still available by informing a Mass Coordinator.
- Those choosing **not to receive** Holy Communion are asked to please remain in the pew.

After Mass:

- Please remain in your pew until an usher directs you (and your family) to exit the church. You must keep your mask on and maintain six feet of distance from others as you exit. While we normally encourage visiting and social interaction after Mass, we ask that at this time you please exit promptly and go to your vehicle.
- We will not be handing out bulletins or other materials at this time. Please check our website for the bulletin.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we begin the return to Mass!