

SAINT THERESA OF THE CHILD JESUS

Masses During the Green Phase

The Dispensation from the Obligation to attend Mass continues throughout the beginning of the *Green Phase*.

No One is Obligated to attend Mass.

If you are sick, please do not attend Mass.

If you have a chronic health condition or a serious health issue or are vulnerable to Covid infection, please do not attend Mass.

ALL “Green Phase” Restrictions and Guidelines will be observed at ALL Masses.

Seating Capacity will be limited to a maximum of 98 people

When Seating Capacity has been reached no one else will be permitted in the Church

If seating capacity has been reached, you are not permitted to stand at the back of the Church or stand in the vestibule

Absolutely no gathering in the vestibule or outside the Church before, during, or after Mass

Social Distancing Guidelines will be in force:

At least six-foot space between you and anyone you do not live with

Only every other pew will be used for seating

Pews that cannot be used will be roped off

(No removing of roping to make more seating)

While two different families may sit at either end of the same pew, there **must** be at least a six foot distance side-to-side between families

NO sitting directly next to someone you do not live with

Please Note: Because of the length of our pews, in any pew *shared by two different families* the pew can only have **2-4** people.

The only pews that can have more than 4 people are those occupied by a single family with 5 or more members.

Most pews will be “full” even when there is empty space:

No “squeezing” into these pews

No seating in the Choir Loft is permitted

(Only the Organist and Song Leader and their families are permitted on the Choir Loft)

Limited number of liturgical ministers/assistants

For safety reasons only Lectors, Organists, Song Leaders, and Ushers will assist at Mass during the Green Phase

No Altar Servers, No Eucharistic Ministers, No Choirs, No Sacristans

No shared hymnals, books, or pew cards are permitted

You may bring your own personal missal and/or hymnal, but to prevent sharing of books and printed materials, we will not have any available in the Church.

Bulletins will only be distributed as you leave Church to prevent anyone from reading the Bulletin and then putting it back in the rack.

Personal Protection will be required for all attending the Mass

You must wear a mask throughout the entire Mass

No exceptions permitted for children and adults

(Infants and toddlers are exempt from wearing masks, but it is strongly encouraged not to bring infants and toddlers to Mass at this time)

Any child or adult who refuses to wear a mask will be asked to leave the Church.

(The State legally gives us this right to obligate everyone to wear a mask.)

The mask can only be pulled down when you are receiving Communion

You should bring hand sanitizer and use it as needed

You should bring disinfectant wipes to sanitize anywhere your hands will come in contact with the pews

Gloves are permitted but not required – they must be removed when receiving Communion in your hands

Distribution of Communion will follow Mass

Reminder: No one is required to receive Communion

(If you want to attend Mass but for safety/spiritual reasons not receive Communion that is fine)

Distribution will follow Mass to allow for a more cautious and safer manner in the Distribution of Communion.

No Communion Procession Line

There will be no “Communion Line” since 6 feet still must always be maintained between you and other people you do not live with.

Only one pew at a time will come forward for Communion. Until the previous pew is done, no one from the next pew should leave their pew to come forward.

Stop at the first pew for the Communion Dialogue (“The Body of Christ.” / “Amen.”)

Do not come directly up to the Priest/Deacon until the dialogue is done.

Form of Reception for Communion

While we cannot deny anyone to receive Communion on the tongue, for the safety of all – the other people receiving Communion and the Priest/Deacon distributing Communion – we strongly encourage everyone to receive in the hand.

In accord with the Diocesan Protocols at this time, we kindly request that anyone who chooses to receive on the tongue to please wait until everyone who wishes to receive in the hand has done so, before coming forward for Communion.

If you are receiving on the tongue please follow proper procedure: open your mouth wide, stick out your tongue slightly, hold your tongue and head still, wait a few seconds after the Consecrated Host has been placed on your tongue before bringing your tongue back into your mouth.

If these proper procedures are not followed, physical contact between the person receiving Communion and the person distributing Communion greatly increases.

Please Note: If physical contact is made during the distribution of Communion, the Priest or Deacon will stop and sanitizer their hands before resuming the distribution of Communion.

No Formal Dismissal after the Reception of Communion

You are free to leave the Church immediately after receiving Communion.

If you decide to return to your pew for a Prayer of Thanksgiving, you are free to leave after you have completed your prayers.

Reminder: No Social gathering after Mass.

When you leave the Church please proceed immediately to your car.

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