



Welcome Back Parishioners....

St. Joseph Church will reopen the doors for weekdays and weekend masses, effective June 6 and 7, 2020. After two long months without public worship, our church leaders assisted Fr. Michael, Deacon Pat and I to work out a plan and safely reopen the church during this **COVID-19 Pandemic**. Attending mass will not be the usual way as it was. It will be different with a new normal way. We all must work together to ensure a healthier and safer environment as we come to worship with social distancing, sanitizing and wearing masks.

HOW CAN YOU ATTEND THE MASS?

Here are the rules and guidelines from our Diocese, the State and County, CDC and sanitation experts to follow for a healthy and safe environment while attending holy masses. We request that you follow them accordingly.

1. Social Distancing

- a. Help each other to be healthy by following the 6 feet social distancing. Markers will be on walkways, outside and inside the church. Please follow the lines on the ground.
- b. Church will be open 30 minutes prior to mass. If you are early – wait in your car.
- c. After you check in, **ushers will lead you to your assigned seat filling the front pews first**. Seating arrangement will be to sit only where marked. Household families and/or couples (living in the same house) may sit together ensuring there is 6 feet distance from the next unrelated person.
- d. Ushers will guide you to the aisle during Holy Communion as you stand and wait in your pew.
- e. During Dismissal, all should remain in their pews until the usher signals you to leave. The back pews at the entrance will leave the church first, working up to the front pews. **Please continue your social distancing as you wait in your pew, and as you exit the church after mass.**
- f. Socializing in the parking lot is prohibited.

2. Reservation

- a. Call (572-7652) or come to the church office to make your reservation to attend weekday and weekend masses. Reservations will be accepted only during office hours, **Monday to Thursday at 8:00am to 3:00pm**.
- b. Your reservation requires your **name, address and contact number**. The information is required for **contact tracing**, in case there is an outbreak of the virus.
- c. For weekend masses, your name will be checked off from the reservations roster before you enter the church and the usher assigns your seat.

3. Face mask

- a. Masks must be worn at all times (outside and inside the church) by all who attend mass. Those without masks will not be permitted inside the church.
- b. Exceptions for no mask will be the priest-celebrant, commentator, lectors, and cantors while they speak or sing during the celebration.
- c. Masks may be removed while receiving Communion reverently, then replaced immediately.

4. Sanitation/Hygiene

- a. Bottle sanitation will be available at the door. Bringing your personal sanitizers is recommended.
- b. No physical contact during Lord’s Prayer and Sign of Peace. A gesture of bow or wave during Sign of Peace is enough.

5. Collection

- a. The Collection of cash and envelopes can be dropped into a locked box at the entrance of the church before or after mass. Two unrelated persons will watch over the box.

KEEP IN MIND....

- NO FACEMASK - NO ENTRY TO THE CHURCH
- NO RESERVATION - NO ENTRY TO THE CHURCH
- IF YOU ARE SICK, PLEASE STAY HOME
- IF YOU ARE AT HIGH RISK OR A KUPUNA (AGES 60 & ABOVE) WITH ANY PRIOR HEALTH CONDITIONS, PLEASE STAY HOME.
- WATCH AND PARTICIPATE IN THE **LIVE STREAMING MASS ON FACEBOOK** FOR A SPIRITUAL COMMUNION
- **BISHOP HAS DISPENSED/ABSOLVED YOU FROM SUNDAY MORAL OBLIGATIONS TO ATTEND MASS. WEEKDAY MASSES ARE RECOMMENDED IF UNABLE TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS.**

Our **GRATITUDE** and **THANKS** in advance for your cooperation and understanding. Let us be patient as we are all in this **TOGETHER**. We will overcome this pandemic by our **FAITH** in the **RISEN JESUS**.

To God Be the Glory.

Fr. Jaime Jose
Administrator