

KEEPING CHURCH SPACE SAFE & PEACEFUL FOR YOU TO WORSHIP

Amidst the uncertainty & chaos around us, Church Services have been allowed to resume this past Sunday May 28, 2020. SMM Parish Staff & I, along with the Pastoral & Finance Councils, have worked diligently to come up with a meticulous protocol to keep our worshipping space safe for you & your loved ones to come meet the Lord & find some peace. The Weekend Mass time remains the same: Saturday at 5pm with Confession at 3:30pm; Sunday at 9am, 11am, & 5pm. Since we're only allowed to fill the Church at 25% of its capacity (with all the seats 6ft apart), I might need to add a couple of extra Masses if needed. That's why we ask you to call/email the Church until June 13 & 14 to let us know which Mass you would attend so that we can prepare Church Services accordingly. Weekday Mass is the same for Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday (No Tuesday) at 8am.

For Weekday Mass & Confession, you need to come in through Door B (next to the Parish Office). For Weekend Mass, you can come in through Door A & B (Church Front Doors) & Door I (Church Back Door). You will have your temperature taken & asked a few questions to see if you might have any COVID's symptoms. You will also be asked to wear a mask as required by the Diocese, the State of Michigan, & the CDC. If you don't have a mask, we'll give you one. Then, you will be asked to wash/sanitize your hands. You will take a seat in Church 6ft apart, which is already marked with a piece of tape in front of you. You can sit together if you're with your family. You will keep the mask on the whole time. If you come up for Offertory & Holy Communion, you will need to be 6ft apart from the person in front of you. Those markings are on the floor with the bright pink tape. Eucharistic Ministers will wash/sanitize their hands at the Sign of Peace in the Sacristy before distributing Holy Communion. As the Church Service ends, you will exit orderly 6ft apart from each other & go outside of the Church to visit one another. Volunteers are asked to help sanitize/clean the Church for the next Service. That's how we would keep the Church safe & peaceful for you to see the Lord & visit with your friends & neighbors.

Our First Church Service last weekend May 27 & 28 went well. Everyone was able to receive Holy Communion again & be filled with joy & other gifts of the Holy Spirit, which we really need in this tough & uncertain time. We were also able to welcome & celebrate the Easter Sacraments with our RCIA/RCIC candidates, which is something we usually do at Easter Vigil. I congratulate those candidates & thank Molly, her RCIA/RCIC team, the Parish Staff, & volunteers to make our Church re-opening run smoothly. As the whole world has been turned upside down with COVID-19 & riots happening in our own city & around the country, we need to come together as a family of Christ & find peace & comfort with one another & in the Sacraments. I hope my explanation above about the safety procedure we do at each Mass Service gives you reassurance of how seriously we consider about your wellbeing & pray that you will come back to Church soon. May the peace of the Risen Christ be with you & your loved ones today & in the days to come.

In Christ's peace & love,
Fr. Peter Vu