



## Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church

9915 Ramos Ave. Bakersfield, CA 93307 | Ph: (661) 831-8905 | Fax: (661) 837-8075

June 5, 2020

Sacred Heart Family:

I bring you good news. As many of you already know, Bishop Brennan has given us the green light to open up our place of worship. God willing we will start celebrating the masses on weekend of June 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Our tentative plan is to celebrate the Saturday 5:00 p.m. in the church and the 8:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. outside in the picnic area. (If temperature is below 90 degrees) With this letter you will receive a copy of the mandates from the Diocese.

### Some of the High lights:

- Anyone over 65 should stay home.
- Anyone who is not feeling well should definite stay home.
- Facial coverings will be required.
- Only 100 people allow at each mass.
- Social distances (6 ft.) apart, unless you're a family.
- Communion must be received in the hand.
- Communion will be offered at the end of mass.
- Additional guidelines are included with this letter.

In Christ,

Fr. David Enriquez



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5 de junio de 2020

Familia del Sagrado Corazón:

Les traigo buenas noticias. Como muchos de ustedes ya saben, el Obispo Brennan nos ha dado luz verde para abrir la Iglesia. Si Dios quiere, comenzaremos a celebrar las misas el fin de semana del 13 y 14 de junio. Nuestro plan es celebrar el sábado a las 5:00 p.m. en la iglesia y las 8:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. y 1:00 p.m. afuera en el área del parque de la Iglesia. (Si la temperatura es inferior a 90 grados) Con esta carta, recibirá una copia de los mandatos de la Diócesis.

### **Algunas de las luces altas:**

- Cualquier persona mayor de 65 años debe quedarse en casa.
- Cualquier persona que no se sienta bien definitivamente debe quedarse en casa.
- Se requerirán revestimientos faciales.
- Solo 100 personas se permitirán en cada misa.
- Distancias sociales (6 pies) separados, a menos que sea una familia.
- La comunión debe ser recibida en la mano.
- La comunión se ofrecerá al final de la misa.
- Se han incluido formas adicionales con esta carta.

En Cristo,

Padre David Enríquez

## The Holy Mass: Options for Mass

Parishes that have adequate space for Mass outdoors, either in chairs or in cars, must consider the following:

- Check with local authorities in advance of any worship services outside to ensure it is allowed.
- Temperatures above 90 degrees or threat of rain will eliminate the option to have Mass outdoors.
- The appropriate number of restrooms must be available for parishioners. They should be instructed before Mass of the location and how many can be in the restroom area at the same time.

### DRIVE-IN Masses

Parishes with very small church buildings or without the resources or staff to properly disinfect the church building safely are allowed to celebrate a drive-in style Mass. All safety protocols remain the same, including use of masks, sanitizing the area, and social distancing. Weather conditions are as listed above.

### OUTDOOR MASSES

Parishes with adequate space, such as a parking lot or gathering space, may consider celebrating Mass outside. The area must be properly prepared and safe for people to sit or stand. Weather conditions are as listed above.

## Celebrations Other than Sunday/Weekday Liturgies

All celebrations must adhere to the same safety guidelines listed above. Participants may not exceed the calculated capacity of 25% of building capacity or 100 participants, whichever is lower.

### CONFESSIONS

**Confessions may be heard** in a church, as long as a 6-foot distance between the priest and penitent is maintained. In this case, avoid gatherings of more than the allotted number of people in the church, with people at least 6 feet apart. A location must be prepared for those waiting, using the proper distancing.

“Drive through” confessions are also possible: penitents remain in their vehicles with the vehicle window open while the priests hear their confession from a 6-foot distance from the vehicle window. Mobile phones should not be used to facilitate priest/penitent communication, since this may undermine the validity of the sacrament, and also is subject to breaches of the confessional seal. Weather conditions must be as listed above.

### 3. Liturgical Guidelines

#### General Guiding Elements for all in attendance

1. Parishioners over the age of 65, whose immune system is compromised, or who are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 are encouraged to remain at home. The dispensation for Sunday Mass is still in place.
2. All Safe Environment directives apply to the following guidelines.
3. Wash hands thoroughly upon entering and exiting the church building, as well as when entering and exiting the restroom.
4. All parishioners over age 11 must wear a face mask while on parish grounds.
5. Bring hand sanitizer to use as needed. Always maintain six-foot radial distance between you and others.
6. Please bring your donation in an envelope ready to be dropped off before or after Mass.
7. Follow the instructions of the priest and ushers as you enter and exit the church.
8. Distribution of Holy Communion will only be in the hand for the time being. The Precious Blood will not be shared, per our usual guidelines during regular flu season.

*It is advisable that instructions be shared with the community via social media, email, and before Mass begins, so they are aware of the changes.*

#### During The Holy Mass (celebrated in-doors).

1. Do not shake hands at the sign of peace or hold hands during the Lord's Prayer.
2. Collection basket(s) should not be passed among parishioners.
3. No offertory processions of bread and wine.
4. The priest alone will elevate both the chalice and paten (ciborium) during the doxology within the Eucharistic Prayer, even if a deacon is present.
5. No distribution of the Precious Blood to the faithful.
6. All who are distributing Communion must wear a mask when distributing Communion.
7. Multiple Communion stations may be used as long as one-way traffic patterns and six-foot radial social distancing are observed.
8. Distribution of Communion for Presiders: Do not prepare Holy Communion for distribution in other locations (No pyx are allowed at this time). Do not give a blessing by making the sign of the Cross on the person's forehead.
9. Distribution of Communion for the Faithful: The use of personal hand sanitizer by parishioners before leaving the pew is encouraged. Communion should be consumed immediately in front of the Priest/Deacon/EMHC. After Communion the mask should be raised immediately to cover both nose and mouth.
10. After the final blessing ushers assist in the dismissal of parishioners according to **the parish plan for and in a manner that allows for social distancing.**
11. Do not distribute bulletins and other printed material(s).