

## MASS SCHEDULE

Our Mass schedule has been changed to try and fit the needs of our community. All Masses will be bilingual. We will continue to live stream the Masses through our Facebook page.

### Daily Mass

- 7:00 AM Chapel

### Saturday

- 5:00 PM (65+ and their caregivers) Church / Please no children at this time.

### Sunday

- 7:30 AM Church / 8:00 AM (over flow in the Parish Hall)
- 10:00 AM Church / 10:15 AM (over flow in the Parish Hall)
- 12:00 PM Church / 12:15 PM (over flow in the Parish Hall)

## CAPACITY & SEATING

- For now, Masses will be limited to 25% capacity. For Our Lady of Perpetual Help that equates to 250 in the church. We will have overflow space in the parish hall that will accommodate up to another 200.

## BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

- Go to the restroom at home. Our restrooms will be closed. Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds.
- For those 3 and up, face coverings are required on our campus and during Mass.
- Bring your own hand sanitizer that can be used before receiving Holy Communion.

## MASS ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

- Masks (for ages 3+) are required to be worn as soon as you exit your vehicle.
- Arrive 20-30 minutes before Mass and stand in line. The line begins on the northside by the main doors and goes east and around south. Please maintain social distancing between families. Look on the sidewalk for blue painter's tape.
- The main doors of the church will open 15 minutes prior to the start of Mass.
- The church will be seated to fill the open pews from front to back.
- Every other pew will be closed and marked by blue painter's tape on the floor.
- You may be sharing a pew with another household, but social distance is required between households (6ft).
- The church will be filled first, then the chapel, after that parishioners will be escorted to the parish hall.
- The holy water fonts will remain empty.
- Don't be late to Mass. There will be no reserving spaces in line or in the pew.

## MASS PROCEDURES

- Masses will be conducted as you have seen on Live Stream with reduced volunteer lay ministers. There will be no altar servers, lay sacristans, lectors or extra ordinary Eucharistic ministers.
- Choirs should be reduced to 2-3 people to be able to maintain social distancing in the choir room.
- Communion will be distributed by priests and deacons only.
- Parish staff will lead our HEALTH TEAMS. Our health teams will serve as ushers before Mass and cleaning/disinfecting crew after Mass.
- Please keep your mask on during the duration of the Mass.
- There is to be NO PHYSICAL contact between households. During the sign of peace, a simple bow of head to others will suffice. There will be no holding hands during the Lord's Prayer.
- Collection Baskets will not be passed during the offertory. You will be able to place your weekly gift in locked box as you enter or exit the church. Secure collection boxes should be gathered, the collection securely locked away, and the collection boxes disinfected after every Mass. Those who handle the collection should use gloves.
- During the parts of the Mass where we normally kneel, we will continue standing. If you cannot stand due to health issue or physical limitations, you may sit down.

## COMMUNION PROCEDURES - CHURCH

- Bishop Daniel Flores has mandated that communion not be offered on the tongue for the time being.
- The precious blood will not be offered on the tongue for the time being.
- Use of personal hand sanitizer before communion is strongly encouraged.
- **Plan A:**
  - Priest and Deacon will walk over to you to receive. When you see them arrive to your row, if you are to receive please stand, remove your mask and extend hands in correct position. If you would like to receive a blessing, please stand and cross your arms in front of your chest.
- **Plan B:**
  - There will be a single communion line in the center of the main aisle. Health team will assist in ushering.
  - Even if you are not receiving communion please stand up and come receive a blessing. We need to a continual flow so people do not brush up against each other.
- If for reasons of health concerns the priest and / or deacon chooses not to distribute Holy Communion, parish staff will be designated. They must disinfect their hands before distributing Communion, and wear a face-covering while distributing communion.
- Masks should be worn in the communion line. After the priest/deacon offers you communion, please step to the side, remove your mask, consume the Eucharist, and then re-mask as you head back to your pew.

## COMMUNION PROCEDURES – CHAPEL

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- Masks should be worn in the communion line. After the priest/deacon offers you communion, please step to the side, remove your mask, consume the Eucharist, and then re-mask as you head back to your pew.

## COMMUNION PROCEDURES – PARISH HALL

- Bishop Daniel Flores has mandated that communion not be offered on the tongue for the time being.
- The precious blood will not be offered on the tongue for the time being.
- Use of personal hand sanitizer before communion is strongly encouraged.
- Priest and Deacon will walk over to you to receive. When you see them arrive to your row, if you are to receive please stand, remove your mask and extend hands in correct position. If you would like to receive a blessing, please stand and cross your arms in front of your chest.
- If for reasons of health concerns the priest and / or deacon chooses not to distribute Holy Communion, parish staff will be designated. They must disinfect their hands before distributing Communion, and wear a face-covering while distributing communion.

## **MASS DEPARTURES CHURCH**

- After the final blessing, parishioners must remain in their pew.
- Pews will be dismissed in an orderly fashion starting in the rear of the church and then moving forward. This is similar with how you exit an airplane.
- You must exit your pew when prompted. Private prayer is not available after Sunday Masses to allow the church to be reset for the next Mass.
- Everyone will exit through the main doors. Side doors will be used as emergency exits only.
- You can drop your weekly offertory as you depart.
- Clergy will not shake hands outside of the church after Mass. They will wave at you as you exit.
- Please do not congregate outside but head directly to your vehicle to allow the next Mass to start on time.

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- Pews will be dismissed in an orderly fashion starting in the rear of the church and then moving forward. This is similar with how you exit an airplane.
- You must exit your pew when prompted. Private prayer is not available after Sunday Masses to allow the church to be reset for the next Mass.
- Those on the right side of the altar will exit through the NORTH side door. Those on the left of the altar will exit through the South side door.
- You can drop your weekly offertory as you depart.
- Clergy will not shake hands outside of the church after Mass. They will wave at you as you exit.
- Please do not congregate outside but head directly to your vehicle to allow the next Mass to start on time.

## **MASS DEPARTURES PARISH HALL**

- After the final blessing, parishioners must remain in their chairs.
- Rows will be dismissed in an orderly fashion starting in the rear of the hall and then moving forward. This is similar with how you exit an airplane.
- You must exit your row when prompted. Private prayer is not available after Sunday Masses to allow the church to be reset for the next Mass.
- Everyone will pick up their chair and place it in the assigned spot so the Health Team can disinfect and exit through the main doors. Side doors will be used as emergency exits only.
- You can drop your weekly offertory as you depart.
- Clergy will not shake hands outside of the church after Mass. They will wave at you as you exit.
- Please do not congregate outside but head directly to your vehicle to allow the next Mass to start on time.

## **CHURCH CLEANING PROCEDURES**

- We will continue to implement cleanliness and sanitation practices, including cleaning pews in between every Mass.
- Disinfection bathrooms, door handles, and other frequently touched surfaces occur throughout the day.
- Parish Staff and health teams will be required to wear face masks, wash hands and will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms.

You are reminded to follow CDC recommendations regarding your own health. If you fall into an “at risk” category, please stay home and join us by Live Stream.

## **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Holy Hour will be observed after daily Mass on Thursdays from 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM. Due to not being able to sanitize after different people go in, we will be livestreaming on our Facebook page.

## **OTHER SACRAMENTS**

**Baptisms of Infants:** the celebration of the sacrament of baptism is to be postponed, unless there is danger of death. Contact Ms. Hilda Luna at 956-682-4238.

**Reconciliation:** As of May 18<sup>th</sup>, confession will now be available appointment only. Please arrive 5 minutes before your appointment.

- The outdoor confessional area will be arranged so that your confession will be private while maintaining social distance.
- Please stay 6 feet apart when waiting in line (markers on the floor).
- Confessions will take place in the prayer garden between the main office and annex.
- After confession, return to your car for private prayer.
- Please wear your mask at all times during confession.

**First Communions:** May be celebrated when the above described protocols for the celebration of Mass are in place. The numbers of first communicants are determined by the requirements of social distancing between family groups and the state and county limitations in total numbers that can be present in a group gatherings. Ms. Cyndy is currently working on a schedule for late July. She will be contacting each family once we have the dates set. Contact Ms. Cyndy at [PCL2-OLPHMcAllen@cdob.org](mailto:PCL2-OLPHMcAllen@cdob.org) for more details.

**Confirmations:** Postponed until a later date TBD. Families will be notified. Contact Ms. Cyndy at [PCL2-OLPHMcAllen@cdob.org](mailto:PCL2-OLPHMcAllen@cdob.org) for more details.

**Weddings:** May be celebrated observing the above described protocols for the celebrations of Mass.

**Anointing of the Sick:** should be administered with great care by the priest, using a face mask, and a cotton or Q-tip swab for the anointing. (Priests will follow protocols in place by Catholic Diocese of Brownsville).

**Funeral Masses:** May be celebrated observing the above described protocols for the celebration of Mass.