

WELCOME BACK TO ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

We have been authorized by Archbishop Vigneron to open our church for public Masses as of Tuesday, May 18th. We have decided to wait until Saturday, May 30th so we could deep clean the church, Social Hall, gathering space and restrooms, make and implement a *stay safe plan*, procure additional cleaning supplies and disinfectant and recruit age appropriate volunteers to assist in ongoing cleaning and disinfecting of our facility. Our goal is to set up the church and Social Hall to provide the maximum safety from the spread of the virus.

To be clear, no matter what we do with regards to cleaning, disinfecting, and controlling the traffic flow, we cannot make any guarantees that we will be able to stop you from getting the coronavirus. The ultimate decision on your behavior, keeping you safe, and protecting yourself is your responsibility. Therefore, we encourage anyone that is in the "at risk" group, namely those 65 or over that in particular have underlying health issues, are sick, or not confident at this time to return to church to strongly consider staying home. The Archbishop has given dispensation from attending Mass through September 6th, 2020. We will continue to pre-record or live stream our Masses on the St. Michael Website and our Facebook page until at least then and longer if warranted. Our utmost concern is your safety. This document highlights what changes you will notice as you come to St. Michael for Mass.

Parking Lot and Gathering Space: We have a large parking lot; please try to allow at least one parking space between you and other vehicles. No visiting or gathering of groups in the parking lot, gardens, gathering spaces, church or Social Hall.

Entering the Church:

1. The main or west entrance (closest to the Parish Offices) will be the only means of entering the church. You must have a face mask on to enter the church. You must provide your own. St. Michael will not be providing these. The inside doors will be propped open. There will be a sanitation station with hand sanitizer located in the gathering space once you enter and you are required to sanitize your hands before entering the church. The east doors (those closest to Hayes) will be for exit only (except for our handicapped parishioners, they may enter through those doors).
2. As you enter the church, you will notice the font is drained and no holy water receptacles are provided per AOD requirements. You will notice placards on the ends of all the rows. Depending on which Mass you attend, the placards will indicate your seating spot. Blue placards are for 4:30pm and 8:00am Mass only. White placards are for 9:45am Mass only and Red placards are for 11:30am Mass only (see attached diagram). Volunteers will be available to assist you in finding a seat if needed. You will probably not be able to sit in your "usual spot" so plan on being flexible and polite. Rotating the rows ensures at least 6 feet between you and others and allows for sanitization of the rows after the liturgies.
3. We are limited to 25% of capacity (AOD requirement); for us that means a maximum of approximately 170 people. Once the church is filled, additional seating is available in the Social Hall, still maintaining the 6 foot social distance guidelines; the Mass will be live-streamed utilizing our audiovisual system (like we do at Christmas).
4. No worship aids in the form of leaflets will be provided nor will the daily/weekly Missals be available.
5. We will have Sunday bulletins available as you exit through the east doors at the end of each liturgy.
6. Members of a single household may sit together and do not need to practice social distancing.



7. The entrance procession will not be down the middle aisle, but will commence from the Sacristy to the Altar. No Servers will be serving at this time and no Cross Bearer will be needed (AOD requirement).
8. We will have a Cantor to lead the congregation in song; the Choir and instrumentalists will return at a later date.
9. There will not be a Commentator, Lector or EM Captains. Those roles will be filled by the Presiders and the Cantor for the time being. Those ministries will return at a later date.
10. There will be no bringing up of gifts at offertory for the time being (AOD requirement).
11. There will be no sharing of the "Peace Greeting" for the time being (AOD requirement).
12. There will be no formal offertory collection, but white collection boxes (we use them on holy days) will be set up against the sacristy wall as you enter through the west doors. If making a donation, you can put it in the white boxes before Mass starts, but again, no gathering or visiting.
13. The church has been divided into 4 sections. You will be called up to receive Communion by section and you will be required to wear your mask. When your section is called up, the procession to the presider to receive will be row by row, following the white tape arrows in the aisles. They have been set up to provide one way traffic at all times so that you are not passing by in close proximity to others. While in line, please practice social distancing.
14. Once you get to the front of the line, you will see a solid white line. You will stop there until the presider holds up the host and invites you forward with the words "The Body of Christ" (the chalice with precious blood will not be offered at this time). You go forward and the presider will place a consecrated host in your hand (presider will also be wearing face mask). You lift up your facemask only enough to put the consecrated host in your mouth and then follow the arrows back to your seat. Should unprotected contact occur with the presider, there will be tables in proximity to the presider with hand sanitizer for before and after you receive.
15. At the end of Mass, each section will be excused or released by the presider to exit out of the east (closest to Hayes) doors. If you need to meet with the priest or Deacon, it is requested that you make an appointment by either phone call or email as neither will be greeting people before or after Mass.

Addendum:

- -Funerals and Memorial Services can be celebrated according to the norms and limitations above.
- -Baptisms can be celebrated with new water being blessed for each baptism and according to the norms and limitations above.
- -Weddings can be celebrated according to the norms and limitations above.
- -Confirmations are on hold until the AOD reinstates them.
- -First Communions are on hold until the AOD reinstates them.
- -Anointing of the sick is allowed based on safe practices and at the discretion of the priest.
- -Confessions are allowed by appointment only at this time.

Please see
Church diagram



