

Daily Message from Msgr. Dennis...

Tuesday, May 26, 2020 ~ Seventh Week of Easter

Readings: Acts 20:17-27; Psalm 68:29-30 , 33-36a, 25bc-26b; Jn 17:11b-19



Dear Parishioners:

By now everyone should have heard that our Catholic churches in the Diocese of San Diego are scheduled to reopen for public Mass on Monday, June 8. We can be grateful to God and our bishops for making this possible. Our bishops have worked non-stop with the priests of the diocese to assure proper implementation of state mandated protocols to allow us to gather again for Mass.

- Faces masks must be worn by everyone who wishes to enter for Mass.
- The seating in the church has already been marked by bright, orange dots indicating where the congregation may sit. Only every-other pew will be utilized. Families can sit together without the required 6' spacing but everyone else must abide by the seating policy.
- The chairs along the walls of the church and in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel have been properly spaced. Under no circumstances may stacked chairs be taken down and utilized.
- Spacing dots have been placed on the floor of the church for the reception of Holy Communion.
- **Please know, too, that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass has been suspended until further notice.**
- If you are hesitant about gathering for Mass, especially if you are elderly and concerned for your health, please feel free to stay home. If you are not feeling well, ill or have underlying health problems *please stay home!*
- For the time being we will still livestream the 9:00 a.m. Mass in the church.
- **Mass times on Sunday** go back to our regular schedule but we are adding a **second, simultaneous Mass** in the parish hall at **certain times** to accommodate as many people as possible.

Starting Monday, June 8, Mass times are:

Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

This will help accommodate those who wish to receive Holy Communion but are not able or are hesitant to attend Sunday Mass.

Sunday Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil Mass, 5:00 p.m. in the church AND the parish hall;

Sunday 7:30 a.m. only in the church;

Sunday 9:00 a.m. in the church AND the parish hall;

Sunday 10:30 a.m. in the church AND the parish hall;

Sunday 12:00 noon only in the church.

The procedure for going to Holy Communion and taking up the collection will be outlined in a letter that will soon be sent to all of our parishioners. We realize that the absence from Mass has been spiritually traumatic for many and if anyone has been offended by not being allowed to come into the church for Mass we apologize. However, if we make as many exceptions as have been requested it would get out of control. This is not a personal inconvenience to anyone. It is an inconvenience to us all. However, thanks be to God that we will soon be back together again. When we do gather *please, please* follow the new protocols.

First Communion, Confirmation and ceremonies for the RCIA dates will be announced soon. Again, they will not be celebrated “as usual” but numbers attending will have to be restricted. That means that whole families might not be able to be in attendance for those important times. That is unfortunate but necessary.

What will determine who gets into Mass? We are still working on that but around the country an online “reservation” system has been employed by parishes that seems to be working. Again, everyone will be informed about that very soon.

The **Parish Offices** will open again for business on Monday, June 1st, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Monday through Friday. They will be closed on Saturday. Office hours will increase when business picks up to the point that necessitates doing so.

None of this is ideal, but it's the best we can do at this time. As the Sisters used to tell us in school when things didn't go our way: "Offer it up."

A Little Humor:

From Stephan Pastis' "Pearls Before Swine:" "Cheese tastes awesome. People shouldn't drive slow in the fast lane. Chocolate makes everything better. It's annoying when the neighbor's dog barks all day. A warm, cozy bed feels good on a cold, winter day. Disco should never have happened. Beer ... beer ... beer.! Printer ink is too expensive. Some men shouldn't wear speedos. These are ALL THINGS A DIVIDED COUNTRY CAN STILL AGREE ON."

A young boy said to his grandmother: "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" As the grandma was mentally polishing her halo she asked: "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.

Here's a "Punny" one: When my kleptomania gets really bad, I take something for it. (get it?)

RIDDLE ME THIS:

Yesterday's Riddle: A rock group with four members, each of whom's deceased; People still come to see us, even though an album was never released. Who am I? (ANSWER: Mount Rushmore)

Today's Riddle: Which travels faster: Hot or Cold? (Answer tomorrow)

Very Rev. Msgr. Dennis L. Mikulanic

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