

June 2, 2020

Dear parishioners,

After several months of closure, we are finally able to reopen our church for Mass and other sacraments. However, since the coronavirus pandemic is still with us, we have to proceed with caution. Worship at church won't be as it was before.

Our primary concern is your safety. Following the guidelines of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and of the Archbishop of Los Angeles, the personnel of St. John Fisher have been carefully preparing the church for its reopening. A detailed plan was submitted to the Regional Bishop, Marc Trudeau, and on June 1 he approved it and gave us permission to reopen.

We need your cooperation to assure a safe environment for public worship. I ask that you read all this carefully and follow our protocol.

- Daily Mass Schedule: 8:00 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. Church will open before each service at 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- Weekend Mass Schedule: Saturday 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- Confessions: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 4:45-5:10 pm. Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. Saturday, 4:00-4:45 p.m.
- If you are over 65 years of age or are vulnerable in other ways, we recommend that you remain home. Archbishop Gomez has extended, indefinitely, dispensation from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass.
- Please come wearing a face mask (adults and children over the age of 3). You should sanitize your hands ahead of time. Hand sanitizers will be available in the narthex.
- Please come early for Mass. No more than 100 people will be allowed in church. First come, first seated. Many rows will be blocked off with orange cones, and an usher will be there to direct you to your seat. You will be able to sit with your family, but maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from others.
- Once the number has reached 100, you will be directed to the Parish Activity Center (former church) where you can view Mass on a screen. Communion will be brought to you there.
- In lieu of the traditional collection, we will ask that you come forward, maintaining social distance, and drop your offering in one of the baskets left by the altar.
- At Communion time, ushers will invite you to leave your pew to get into line. Stand 6 feet apart in line to receive communion. Communion will be distributed in the hand only. Leave your mask on to receive the host. Your hands should be extended in the form of a throne, so that the priest or Eucharistic Minister can drop it on the hand without touching it. After receiving the host, step to the side to place it in your mouth and place your mask over your mouth as you return to your pew.
- No Precious Blood will be distributed.
- The priest and Eucharistic ministers will use hand sanitizers before distributing communion.
- Please avoid touching surfaces in the Church. We have placed signs in front of the statues requesting that you not touch them.
- The Blessed Sacrament Chapel will remain closed.
- An Usher will greet you at the door and show you where to sit
- Sign of Peace to be exchanged without physical contact
- No hymnals will be available but disposable prayer aids will. If you choose to sing, we ask that you keep the masks on throughout Mass.
- Follow the instructions of the ushers at dismissal, so that we can maintain the social distancing.

I want you to be assured that when you come into our church, you are coming into a secure environment. The personnel have been deep cleaning everything within and will be carefully sanitizing everything in church between Masses. We have spaced the Masses further apart to enable that to take place.

Confessions have been restored to their prior schedule. However, the procedures have changed to assure your safety when going. Ushers will be present to guide you.

I look forward to welcoming you back. I'll greet you warmly as before but will not shake your hands and will maintain a proper distance. I want your worship experience to be spiritually enriching but safe for your health and wellbeing.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. David A. Sork
Pastor