

ST VITUS CATHOLIC CHURCH  
THE PRIESTLY FRATERNITY OF ST. PETER OF LOS ANGELES



May 29, 2020

Dear Members of St. Vitus,

Our prayers go out to all of you who are suffering in any way in the difficult time we presently endure.

God willing we will all be back on our feet in the very near future!

**This letter brings good news! We are opening St. Vitus!**

Please find attached our policies regarding the opening of St. Vitus to minimize the spread of Covid-19. These policies will be in place until restrictions are lifted on the civil and Archdiocesan level.

The dispensation from the Sunday Obligation has been extended by the Archbishop. If you would prefer not to attend Mass for the time being, feel free to stay home and continue to watch online.

Due to many people still watching online, **we will have a modified Mass schedule for the month of June.** At the end of June we will revisit the Mass schedule.

**During June, this will be the schedule:**

Sunday: 7 am, 9 am, 11 am, 5 pm and 7 pm. No confessions on Sunday.

Monday - Saturday: 7 pm.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday: Also at 12 noon.

*no 6:15 am Mass during June.*

Confessions: Mon, Wed & Fri at 11 am and 6 pm.

Tues & Thurs at 6 pm

Saturday at 9 am.

**You will need to call the office to make reservations to attend Mass at St. Vitus on Sunday. Only people on the list will be admitted.** Please call the office during the hours of 9 am - 12 pm; 1 pm - 3 pm; Wed, Thurs & Friday **ONLY**. Do not leave a message, do not contact any other way. The parish office number is **626-424-1962**.

Alternately, if there are too many people for Sunday Mass, you can consider going to Mass during the week instead, since the Sunday Obligation is not in force.

**Confessions** will take place under a tent on the garden side of the church. There is privacy there. A screen will be placed. Please *stand* at the screen and speak your confession in a normal voice. The priest will be six feet away. Please do not touch the screen or get too close to it. While waiting in line for confession, please keep social distancing.

While the Archdiocese is opening churches for Mass beginning on June 3rd, we have decided to wait until Sunday 7th to open St. Vitus for Mass, so that the tent can be installed, rather than having to turn people away from attending within the small church.

Baptisms can now be scheduled at any time, beginning from June 3rd. All the other sacraments can be scheduled after June 3rd as well. We have yet to decide and get direction from the Archdiocese regarding RCIA and Confirmations.

First Communions will be on the Feast of Corpus Christi, Thursday June 11th. Please arrange with one of the priests to hear the First Confession of your child at some point before then.

God bless you!

  
Rev. Fr. Fryar

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## PLAN FOR THE RE-OPENING OF ST VITUS IN THE MIDST OF THE COVID-19 VIRUS

Revised: May 29, 2020

IT IS with great joy that we are able to open our doors and provide the Sacraments for the souls of our parishioners. Nevertheless we continue to have concern and caution to provide an atmosphere where the spread of the pandemic will be minimized.

### Important Stuff:

- **If you have a temperature, have Covid-19 symptoms, have had contact with someone with Covid-19 symptoms or are sick at all, please remain home and do not come to church.**
- We plan to begin confessions and baptisms and open the church for private prayer on Wednesday June 3rd. Masses will begin on Sunday June 7th.
- We plan to set up a large tent in our parking lot and have Sunday services and busy weekday services outside in the open air. This will allow for 100 attendees total.
- The secretaries will field the requests of our parishioners to attend Mass at St. Vitus. **These requests will be by phone call to the parish office: 626-424-1962, during the hours of 9 am -12pm; 1 pm - 3 pm, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.** Please call during these times only and do not leave a message.
  - Individuals and families will be divided into groups and designated times they may attend. Only those approved to attend at those times will be admitted. Until the restrictions are lifted we will give preference to St. Vitus parishioners.
  - The early Mass on Sunday will be reserved for senior members of our parish and those who may be vulnerable.
- We will observe social distancing between families.
  - Within the church every second pew will be blocked to have a 6 foot distance.

- In the tent you will take your chairs and space them where you wish, so that there be six feet distance between individuals or families. Please return the chair to the back of the tent when you leave. They will be sanitized before the next Mass.
- In line for Communion and Confession please observe six feet distance to the person in front of you.
- There is no provision for Communion on the hand in the rubrics of the Extraordinary Form of the Mass. Communion will be given on the tongue. Communicants will approach observing social distancing and receive one at a time rather than spread across the altar rail. The priest will sanitize his fingers in a bowl of alcohol and dry them on a purificator after he distributes Communion to each person.
  - **Please remember that Holy Communion is optional. Our method of giving Communion on the tongue is not optional. We cannot give you Communion in the hand at the Extraordinary Form. If you feel you should not go to Communion, please remain in your seat. If you receive Communion you understand that it will be at your own risk.**
- Regarding confession: We will provide the sacrament outdoors in a well ventilated area and away from people to protect privacy. Six feet of distance will be observed between the priest and the penitent. The penitent will stand behind a barrier. Social distancing will be observed for those waiting in line.
  - Confessions will be at the usual times, (before each Mass). For the first few weeks our usual 11 am time on Monday, Wednesday and Friday will extend past the hour until all the confessions have been heard.
  - During June we will not be hearing confessions on Sunday. Please come a different day.

### **The Fine Print Stuff:**

- The church and office building has been thoroughly cleaned and sanitized.
- The priests check their temperatures twice daily.
- We will follow [Archdiocesan Procedures](#) if any of our staff or volunteers get infected with Covid -19.
- We will have stations of hand sanitizer, masks and gloves available for visitors. Please use facial covering.

- A team of volunteers will sanitize the areas used after each service.
- Public recitation of the Rosary in the church is not permitted for the time being to allow the sanitization of the area between Masses.
- Necessary signage will be in place.
- Ushers will greet the people, verify that they have sanitized their hands and that they are on the list to attend at that Mass.
- For the collection we will have a box at the entrance where people can place their donations either before or after Mass.
- There is no handshake or kiss of peace at the Latin Mass.
- The altar servers will not observe any of the *solita oscula* (the liturgical kissing of items).
- The Holy Water fonts will be empty.
- Parishioners are encouraged to bring their own books to follow the liturgy or use the iMass app.
- Only one person or members of the same family are allowed in the bathrooms at a time.
- Receptions, coffee and donuts etc will be postponed until they are permitted by Archdiocesan policy.

  
Rev. Fr. J. Fryar FSSP - Pastor