

May 30, 2020

My Dear Parishioners of St. Joseph the Worker Church,

I pray that you are doing well. I am almost certain that you are aware that Archbishop Gomez has given permission for the churches in the Archdiocese to celebrate Mass with a congregation. Glory to God!

I am anxious to see you. We are not, however, returning to how we did things prior to closing our churches. I would like to share with you when and how the reopening will take place. We have a plan in place, which follows all protocols, to begin celebrating Masses on Sunday, June 7, 2020.

### Mass **Schedule**

**Sunday:** Our Sunday Mass schedule will be the same: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., English; 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Spanish; 4:00 p.m. Vietnamese. Saturday 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass will begin Saturday, June 13.

**Weekday:** We will celebrate Weekday Masses as usual: 6:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., English beginning on **Monday, June 8**. Should this change, I will keep you posted.

**Livestream:** We will continue to livestream Sunday Masses: 9:30 a.m., English; 1:30 p.m., Spanish; 4:00 p.m., Vietnamese. Note the time change from the previous several weeks.

### **Protocols and Procedures**

1. No more than 100 people may gather, including the celebrant and ministers.
2. I am sorry, but once we reach our limit, no one else will be admitted. You may need to wait for the next Mass, or return for a later Mass.
3. Those who are over 65 or have an underlying medical condition are encouraged to stay at home and watch the livestream Masses.
4. If you are ill, please DO NOT come to Mass.
5. You MUST wear a mask and SANITIZE your hands before you enter the church. We will provide the sanitizer.
6. You will be screened to make sure you have no fever or other symptoms.
7. You MUST maintain a distance of at least six feet from others.

8. Once you enter, follow the instructions of the monitors.
9. Sit only in premarked spaces to ensure six feet distancing.
10. Members of the same household may sit together in the designated pews, but the last person must maintain a distance of six feet from the next person who is not a member of your household.
11. If there are many in your household, and the six feet distance cannot be observed, you and the members of your household may occupy the entire pew. If you have any questions, the monitor will assist you.
12. No hugs, handshakes, or any physical contact is allowed. At the Sign of Peace, only a wave or nod is allowed.
13. There will be no offertory collection. You may deposit your contribution as you exit at the end of Mass. A better option is **e-giving**. Go to our website ([www.sjwchurch.com](http://www.sjwchurch.com)) and sign up for e-giving. You may opt out at any time, but I encourage you to continue. It is an easy, convenient way to support your parish.
14. Holy Communion will be placed ONLY on the hand. You MUST be mindful of the markings on the carpet to ensure six feet distancing.
15. At the end of Mass, you will be dismissed one section and one pew at a time to adhere to the six feet distancing rule.
16. You must exit immediately as the church needs to be sanitized before the next Mass and this takes time.

Please know that these protocols are in place for everyone's protection. As a family of God, we need to look out for one another. Please continue to be safe and pray for an end to this pandemic.

Blessings,

Fr. Beto