

5/9/2020

St. Peter's Masses with Restrictions during COVID-19

So, let's talk about the restrictions.

Sunday Mass obligations remain suspended indefinitely for all people.

1. This means if you are uncomfortable with returning to Mass at this time, you can still remain home and watch Mass on TV. And you incur no sin for not going to Mass at Church.
2. If you would really like to go to Mass and receive Jesus in the Eucharist, but are afraid that the Sunday celebrations are too crowded and you might come into contact with too many people, may I suggest a weekday Mass, especially Wednesday or Friday evenings at 5:15 PM, and go ahead and watch Sunday Mass on TV.

But if you choose to come to Mass, any Mass, please:

1. **Wear a mask to church.**
2. Gloves are okay and encouraged but at Communion they must be removed.
3. The Church will do its best to provide hand sanitizer at the entrances, but you know how difficult it is to find right now. So, to bring your own personal bottle is best.
4. Families can sit together without the 6-foot social distancing restriction but all others in the pews need to maintain six feet between families and individuals
5. There will be no collections taken up, but there will be a basket at each door so place your donation in the basket as you come in or go out.
6. Every other pew has been roped off which means the Church will fill up fast. Once the Church is full, we have set up chairs in the gym and will livestream the Mass over in the gym and at Communion time a Minister will bring Communion over to the people who are there.
7. There are no books. Less to disinfect, but it is okay to bring your personal missal.
8. There will be no singing by the congregation unless you are wearing a mask. Singing projects possible germs further into the air.

9. **At Communion maintain 6 feet social distancing. Receive Communion on the hand please.** If you are determined to receive on the tongue, I ask you to wait and go last.
10. When Mass is over, please be patient and allow the 6 ft. rule to be maintained as you leave. Family groups need to congregate at their cars, not in front of doors so people leaving the Church won't get too close to you or others.
11. Realize all of this is new and things might be a little chaotic the first few Masses so be charitable and considerate. Think of others before yourself.
12. The first Sunday we will see if the normal weekend Mass Schedule will accommodate everyone who wants to go to Mass. While at the same time, to the best of our abilities, we meet the Bishop and states restrictions that have been put in place for Church worship.

Mass times stay the same:

Saturday evening 4:00 PM

Sunday 7:00, 8:30 and 11:00 AM

I have asked Jesus for all of us the grace of the virtue of humility. To just accept what the Bishop has asked us to do regarding Mass and the reception of the Eucharist.

Prayerfully Yours,

Fr. Norbert

P.S. I'm not being persnickety but, I will not be able to greet people after Mass.