
PASTORAL PLAN FOR WORSHIP ST. JOAN OF ARC CHURCH

The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass, issued by Bishop da Cunha, remains in effect until further notice. Those who are most vulnerable and at a greater risk due to age, preexisting health conditions, or in close proximity to vulnerable people are encouraged to remain home at this time. If you or a close loved one show symptoms of illness, please refrain from coming to church.

The weekend Mass schedule here at St. Joan of Arc Church remains unchanged... Saturday at 5:00pm, Sunday at 8:00am and 10:00am. During the week Mass is celebrated Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:00am.

Per state regulations, gatherings cannot exceed 40% of a house of worship's occupancy capacity. Taking into account social distancing of 6 feet between people or households, means only approximately 3 people in every other pew.

All worshippers enter the church through the Main Entrance. For safety and order, a person will not be able to choose a specific seat. A specially trained group of greeters will assist people to their seats. Once we reach our occupancy limit, we will not be able to admit others. Charity, cooperation and understanding are asked of all.

Everyone entering the church is required to wear a mask or other face covering. Please provide your own masks. While there is hand sanitizer available in the foyer, please consider providing your own, if you can, as supply is limited.

There are receptacles at the entrance of the church in which you may place your contribution to the parish as you enter. On-line giving is encouraged via our parish website. Thank you so much for your support, especially at this extraordinary time.

The offertory procession (bringing up of the bread and wine) and the usual sign of peace have been eliminated. You may offer the sign of peace with a head nod and wave. The holy water fonts at the doors of the church will remain empty, however, we do have a battery operated touchless holy water dispenser just inside the entrance to the church. Simply place your hand under the dispenser to activate the sensor. Missals/hymnals have been removed as it would be difficult to sanitize them. Singing has been eliminated from our worship until further notice.

Holy Communion will be distributed at the usual time during the Mass. Those receiving Communion will approach row by row (keeping the 6 feet safe distancing protocol) and section by section. Please remain at your pew until your row is called. The priest will distribute Communion with sanitized hands while wearing a mask. Communicants may lift their mask just prior to receiving Holy Communion.

Following the Final Blessing, please exit the church by the door closest to your pew maintaining the 6 feet distancing protocol. Upon exiting the church, please refrain from congregating near the doors of the church. After each Mass, the tops of the benches, door handles and other high traffic areas will be sanitized.

Scheduling for Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Servers will be suspended for the time being. All parish ministries and events will remain suspended until further notice. The church will be closed following each Mass. The Parish Office and Faith Formation Office remain closed.

We encourage all who make the prudent judgement for themselves not to return to church for Mass, to instead participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and view other good quality spiritual programming on Catholic TV, found on your local cable Channel 268 or on EWTN, Channel 56. Mass is televised each Sunday at 11:00am on Channel 6. You can also view daily Mass on-line at <http://www.catholictv.org/masses/catholictv-mass>. You may view the streamed recording of our own 5:00pm Saturday Vigil Mass at the St. Joan of Arc Parish Facebook Page.

Let us remember one another in prayer especially those most in need of our prayers at this time. Let us commit ourselves to prayer for an end to the covid-19 coronavirus.

