



ST ANTHONY

Catholic Parish | Renton WA

June 18, 2020

Dear Parishioners and Friends of St. Anthony Parish,

Gov. Inslee has announced that churches may resume public worship but with limited restrictions. We are eager to return to celebrating Mass together in the church once King County reaches Phase II of the “Safe Start” reopening plan. However, we must be able to ensure the safest environment for the people gathering in an enclosed space. The well-being of our community is a priority.

As we discuss and plan for the limited public celebration of Mass, we think it is important to get a sense of our parishioners’ readiness to return to Mass while the pandemic continues. The dispensation from Sunday Mass will continue, so you are not required to attend public Mass at this time. Thus, while it is possible for the faithful to begin to return to Mass soon, we will continue to livestream Masses.

At the end of this letter, you will find instructions on how to sign up for a Mass time slot, these are our suggested Mass times, if we get permission to open. Before you respond, we want you to be fully aware of what conditions and requirements will be in place. While these procedures and protocols are subject to change, they are based on the current guidance from the Archdiocese. For those who wish to attend public Mass, please know it will not be like anything you have experienced before. Reopening will not mean an immediate return to our practices prior to suspension of public Masses. Currently we plan to offer public Mass on:

Sunday	9:00 a.m. (also livestream) 11:00 a.m. (in Spanish – also livestream)
Monday through Friday	8:00 a.m. (also livestream)
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday	7:30 p.m. (in Spanish – also livestream)
Saturday	8:00 a.m. (also livestream) 5:00 p.m.

What we will be asking of parishioners:

- We will do everything possible to ensure the safety of those who attend. However, **anyone attending Mass does so at their own risk**. Vulnerable, at-risk, and otherwise concerned persons are encouraged to remain at home.
- You will be required to take your temperature at home and if it is more than 100.4, you agree that you will not attend Mass. Anyone experiencing even the slightest symptoms, such as fever, cough, sore throat, muscle aches, **MUST** remain at home out of consideration for the health and well-being of others.
- Masks/face coverings must be worn. We ask that you bring your own, but we will have some available if necessary. For your safety and that of others, face masks are **not** optional.
- Upon entrance to the church, each person will be required to sanitize their hands and practice strict physical distancing of 6 feet apart from members of different households.
- Limited Number – only 50 individuals will be able to attend Mass during Phase II.



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- Registration will be required to attend the Mass – an online registration system and a telephonic sign up will be used. We will **not** admit anyone who is **not registered**. Registration is mandated to both limit the numbers in attendance and to provide for contact tracing should we learn that anyone present has been exposed to COVID-19. We are required to keep records of all in attendance for 2 weeks, after which they will be destroyed.
- Arrive 15-30 minutes prior to the start of Mass to allow time for the check in process. If you arrive 10 minutes prior to the start of Mass there is no guarantee you will be allowed in.
- Registered persons will be greeted by staff/volunteer who will check you in using your first and last name. An usher will guide you to your seat.

Changes within the Mass:

- There will be no congregational singing because singing increases the risk of transmitting of the virus.
- The Sign of Peace will not be shared, and Communion will not be offered from the cup.
- Communion will be distributed after the final blessing.
- You will need to leave the church following receiving Communion because we are not able to gather or socialize following Mass.
- At Communion, parishioners will come forward wearing their masks and observing physical distancing as directed by the usher. Communion will be given *only* in the hand, not on the tongue. You will step to the side to consume the host. Parishioners may not wear gloves to receive Holy Communion.
- There will be No holy water in the font.

How to register for Mass:

- Attendance is by reservation only. The faithful are strongly encouraged to sign-up for Mass at only one parish. The first and last name of each person who wishes to attend will be collected, along with the best contact information for them. The current sign up is specifically used to collect names of those wanting to attend Mass. When you have an assigned date, you will be contacted separately with your assigned date/time. There are two ways to sign up.
- OPTION ONE: (electronic sign up)
Sign up for your preferred slot by using the sign up genius link,
www.tinyurl.com/MASSanthyony
If you would like to choose a second/third...seventh slot, please scroll to the bottom and sign up in the "alternate option" slot(s). This allows as many people in the parish as possible the opportunity to attend Mass.
- OPTION TWO: (telephonic sign up)
Call 425-255-3132 during the schedule times
 - Monday, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.
 - Friday, 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

These safety measures are employed, not out of fear, but out of love for our neighbor and concern for the vulnerable. Thank you in advance for taking the time to sign up or not depending on your personal preference.

We thank you for your continued patience and support.

God Bless You!

Fr. Jack Shrum and St. Anthony Parish Staff