

## IMPORTANT GUIDELINES FOR REOPENING OF PUBLIC MASSES

*A message from Monsignor Peter Bui*

*May 24, 2020*

The Diocese of Phoenix is making plans for restoring parish life in harmony with the State of Arizona and Federal directives. As a community we will begin moving toward the goal of full restoration of parish life with prudence. There will be a gradual reopening of parish life that will be implemented with this goal in mind. We hope to balance our very real spiritual needs with our great concern for the physical well-being of our parishioners and wider community. As the gradual reopening of our parish for public Masses begins, I would like to communicate to you the follow general and concrete guidelines to keep in mind.

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS TO KEEP IN MIND:

1. The general dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation continues for everyone. Those who are vulnerable or feel safer staying home are encouraged to stay at home.
2. We will all continue to observe and practice good hygiene by washing hands regularly; social distancing and we are encouraged to wear masks. *UPDATE as of June 18, masks/face coverings are required to enter the church, chapel, and church campus.*
3. Please be attentive to the signs and written indications around and within Church.
4. During our gradual reopening, we will continue to observe the liturgical guidelines in place, that is, the sign of peace will be omitted, and receiving Holy Communion in the hands is highly encouraged. In addition to this, during the first few months, the Offertory procession of the gifts will also be omitted.

### CONCRETE OBSERVATIONS:

1. Dispensation from the obligation from Sunday Mass remains in place for all faithful. Vulnerable individuals should stay at home. If you are sick, please take steps to care for yourself and help protect others; *Do not visit public areas.*
2. An important characteristic during this time is the designated limit on the number of participants at each Mass based on seating capacity. Temporarily, the maximum number allowed at each of our Masses will be 25% of full capacity, which is 235 parishioners. Observing this important indication, we will implement the following:

Seating will be on a first come, first serve basis. We will have ushers at the main entrance, doing head counts.

In order to have an accurate count, the two side entrances of the Church will be locked from the outside. Please use the main entrance of the Church to enter. You may use all exit doors at the end of Mass.

Therefore, during this time, our Mass Schedule (*revised May 18*) and Confession times will be the following:

**English Masses: Saturday, 4:30 PM, Sunday, 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM**  
**Vietnamese Mass: Sunday, 5:30 PM**

Confession times: Saturday, 3:00 P M - 4:00 PM; Sunday, 4:45 PM - 5:15 PM  
*The chapel and cry room will be designated as Confessionals during this time.*

3. After every Mass the restrooms and pews will be cleaned and disinfected. Masses will be as brief as possible, approximately 30 minutes to decrease the time of contact.
4. In order to help with social distancing, tape markers will be used to designate where to sit (if you are not sitting together as a family) and the directional line for Holy Communion.