

26 May 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Mary's Cathedral,

We will begin celebrating Public Masses on Saturday evening, May 30, 2020.

First of all, let me stress that **you have no obligation to attend Sunday Mass**. The Church has dispensed us from this obligation. Your health and safety are our first priority during this COVID-19 Pandemic. **If you are elderly (65 years of age or older) and health compromised, please feel free to stay home** where you can continue to watch Mass online or on television. Go to www.stmarysgi.com and click on either YouTube or Facebook to connect with our parish's pages. We plan to continue to live-stream our Sunday and daily masses and make them available.

Some of the people at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19, include:

- People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
- People who have serious heart conditions or who are immunocompromised
- People with severe obesity, who have diabetes or have liver disease
- People with chronic kidney disease or undergoing dialysis

For those returning to Mass, here are some important notes:

- † The temporary pandemic Mass schedule is adjusted to allow more time for sanitizing the church between Masses and to add two additional Spanish Masses. Here is the temporary schedule:

Saturday evening	4 pm English 6 pm Spanish
Sunday	English at 7 am; 11:00 am and 5 pm Spanish at 9:00 am and 1:00 pm.
Daily Masses in English:	Mon-Sat at 7 am; Thur. 5:15 pm
Daily Masses in Spanish:	Wed. 5:15 pm & Friday 5:15 pm

- † Families are asked to stay in their family group.
- † Everyone will be asked to wear a mask.
- † Maintain 6-foot distancing rule from other family units.
- † Children must stay with their parents at all times.
- † For the time being, Holy Communion will only be given in the hand.
- † Please bring your own hand sanitizer to use prior to receiving Communion.
- † Patience please. We are all learning what will best serve the members of our Cathedral parish. Procedures will continue to evolve with time.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and understanding! Let us hold each other in prayer – especially the sick and those adversely affected by this pandemic. If you have questions or special needs – please call the parish office.

In Christ,

Fr. Jim

Rev. James R. Golka
Rector

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