

RETURNING TO IN-PERSON MASSES

What you need to know



DIOCESE OF
SAN JOSE

As we prepare for the gradual return of public Masses and Sacraments in our parishes, the guidelines below, based on local public health requirements and recommendations from the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, are to ensure the health and wellbeing of all and preserve the sacred nature of our liturgies.

Please do your part to keep our community safe!

"Following new protocols is not only an act of charity, but also a moral imperative, as the health and lives of others are at stake." - Bishop Oscar Cantú.

- ▶ The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains in effect for all Catholics in the Diocese of San Jose until further notice.
- ▶ Many parishes will continue to live stream Masses. If you are sick or in a high-risk population, please stay home.
- ▶ During this process, there will be varying maximum capacity limits that we will have to respect to comply with social distancing protocols. Please be patient if your parish is not able to accommodate you on any given day. It's for your safety and the safety of others.
- ▶ While our clergy, staffs, and ministers will follow all safety measures, parishioners should know that coming to church presents the same risk of contracting COVID-19 as any other public space.
- ▶ All pews and surfaces will be wiped down and disinfected after each Mass.
- ▶ Hand sanitizer will be available at each entry. We also encourage you to bring your own.
- ▶ We will continue to follow the guidelines and best practices from public health officials.
- ▶ Returning to in-person Masses and Sacraments will be a gradual process with numerous modifications that could be altered or even reversed at any moment depending on the situation in our community.

Given that every church is different, these measures may be slightly different at each site. Please note and follow the specific instructions from your local parish.