



CHURCH OF THE
**DIVINE
CHILD**

A PLAN FOR *Safely* RETURNING TO MASS

Dear parishioners - It is with joy in our hearts that we announce Divine Child will resume public Masses on Tuesday, May 19, 2020. In alignment with the liturgical directives issued by Archbishop Allen Vigneron, we are committed to providing a safe and clean environment for the faithful to worship our Lord. The health of our parishioners is of utmost importance to us and new procedures and protocols have been put in place to ensure this. Please review the information below regarding how Mass will work and the role we all play in keeping each other safe. Thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation as we work through our new "normal" together. **Note: Dispensation from the Sunday obligation to attend Mass is granted to all faithful through Sunday, Sept. 6, 2020.** Let us keep each other in our prayers.

- Fr. Bob McCabe & Fr. Matthew Hood

SECTION 1: WHO SHOULD ATTEND MASS

According to the Archbishop's directives, parish churches are not to exceed **25% of their total capacity** at one time - that's **375 parishioners** at Divine Child. This means we must count the number of attendees at each Mass, and we must turn attendees away when we reach capacity. We believe all people who desire to worship our Lord should have the ability to do so. See Section 2 for how we are working to ensure all can worship.



WHO SHOULD **NOT** ATTEND MASS

- Those who are older than 65 years old (the recommended CDC age), with a compromised health condition or caring for the sick in any way, are encouraged to stay home.
- Anyone who is ill, has a temperature, cough, etc., should stay home as an act of justice to the whole community.

SECTION 2: SCHEDULE OF MASSES

MASS TIMES:

WEEKDAYS

6:30 AM | 8:30 AM

WEEKEND SATURDAY

8:30 AM | 4:30 PM + LIVE STREAM

SUNDAY

8 AM | 10 AM | 12:30 PM
+ **NEW OUTDOOR MASSES:**
10:15 AM | 12:45 PM (weather permitting)

INDOOR MASSES | We are returning to our normal weekday and weekend Mass schedule. All parishioners must enter the church through the front doors (Silvery Lane). Only 375 people will be admitted at once, and an attendant will be keeping count at the door. Attendees beyond that will be asked to proceed to the corresponding outdoor Mass at 10:15 AM or 12:45 PM, or to watch the weekend's streamed Mass.

OUTDOOR MASSES | Weather permitting, we will be **adding two outdoor Sunday Masses at 10:15 AM & 12:45 PM on the football field**. Attendees may enter the football field through the gateway building, through the North-West gate from the elementary school lot, or through the South-East gate. Attendees will be seated on the field facing the home bleachers. Those who attend the outdoor Mass are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or a blanket. No seating will be provided.

LIVE STREAMED MASS | For those unable to attend Mass in-person, the weekend live stream will continue, but is **moving to Saturday's 4:30 PM Mass**. Watch the Mass in real-time or any time retroactively by visiting [Facebook.com/DivineChildParish/Live](https://www.facebook.com/DivineChildParish/Live).



SAFETY GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

*Measures we're taking to
keep our community safe*



FACE MASKS

All parishioners **MUST** wear a face mask as recommended by the CDC (except those under 2 years old) to obtain entry into all Masses.



HAND SANITIZER

Parishioners are encouraged to bring and use hand sanitizer before & after Mass. We will also have 4 hand sanitizing stations located in the gathering space.



SOCIAL DISTANCING

All attendees must maintain 6 feet of distance between themselves and others not in their household.



SANITIZING THE CHURCH

A deep sanitization of the church pews, doors, restrooms, etc. will be conducted after each weekday Mass and after the completion of Sunday liturgies. The church cannot be deep cleaned between Sunday Masses, and therefore, it is important to follow the color/letter seating chart for each Mass.



SAFE COMMUNION

If a Eucharistic minister accidentally touches the hand or mouth of a parishioner, he or she will sanitize his or her hands instantly with rubbing alcohol at a sanitizing station located near each Eucharistic minister's station.



PLASMA GENERATOR

A plasma generator has been installed on the church HVAC system. The device breaks down and destroys viruses, bacteria and mold by charging the air with positive & negative ions.

SECTION 3: HOW MASS WILL WORK

FINDING A SEAT | To ensure proper social distancing and sanitizing of pews, parishioners will be asked to adhere to a seating chart for each Mass. Pews will be marked with alternating colored tape and letters. Please sit in these colored pews for the following Mass times. Attendants will also be present to assist parishioners.

WEEKDAY MASSES:

6:30 AM - Orange/A pews only
8:30 AM - Yellow/B pews only

WEEKEND MASSES:

4:30 PM - Orange/A pews only
8 AM - Orange/A pews only
10 AM - Yellow/B pews only
12:30 PM - Green/C pews only

Parishioners who attend the outdoor Masses are asked to sit on or near the ten yard lines in order to provide adequate social distancing. Orange cones will be placed along each ten yard line to mark the amount of space to the front and back of attendees. Those who attend the outdoor Mass are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or a blanket. No seating will be provided.

OFFERTORY | There will not be a collection during Mass. Upon the conclusion of Mass, please place your offertory in the collection baskets located in front of the altar, in the gathering space or at any entrance to the football field. Alternatively, donations can be made online through FaithDirect.net.

COMMUNION | A limited number of Eucharistic ministers will be on hand for each Mass to distribute communion to multiple pew banks/yard lines. Thank you in advance for your patience as we expect communion to take longer than usual. Communion procedures will be explained just before the reception of the Holy Eucharist. If you wish to receive the Eucharist, please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Attendees should maintain 6 feet of distance from other attendees while proceeding to the front of church/field.
- All attendees should remove masks and gloves as they approach the minister. No gloves may be worn when accepting the Eucharist in hand.
- Attendees should bow and reply "Amen" at a distance of 6 feet from the Eucharistic minister and then approach to receive the Eucharist.

**If you are uncomfortable receiving the Eucharist at this time, please know that there is no obligation to receive the Eucharist whenever you come to Mass.*

DISMISSAL | Upon conclusion of the Mass, parishioners are asked to remain seated. Each section of pews will be dismissed separately to limit person-to-person contact. Please exit immediately. We are unable to allow fellowship in the gathering space at this time. Attendants will open all church doors at the conclusion of Mass to limit the contamination of door handles, and parishioners may exit through any door.

