

May 14, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

The Church of the Holy Spirit plans to reopen its doors to public worship starting on Wednesday, May 20, 2020. The first service will be a Mass of Thanksgiving celebrated that morning at 8:15 a.m. Before we reopen our church, I want to point out the changes that you will see. The changes, listed below, will remain in place until further notice.

Sincerely,

(Rev.) Frederick W. Klotter  
Pastor

**Change in Confession Format:** Confession will continue to be offered outdoors on Saturday at 3:30 p.m. (weather permitting). However, the drive-up format will be changed to a walk-up format in the Prayer Garden. This is to take advantage of the shade of the nearby trees.

The confession time on early Saturday morning remains suspended.

<b>New Mass Schedule:</b>	Tuesday-Friday	8:15 am
	Saturday	5:00 pm
	Sunday	10:00 am

The morning Mass on Monday and Saturday as well as the 8:00 am Mass on Sunday remain suspended until further notice.

***Please keep in mind that the Archbishop has continued the dispensation lifting the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Anyone, who is sick, lives with someone who is sick, has a pre-existing risk factor, or simply feels afraid or vulnerable does not need to attend Mass in person.***

**Church Access:** People may enter the building only through the Rotunda doors or the glass door by the restrooms on the Cannons Lane side. All doors facing Lexington Road will be closed. Everyone must proceed through the Colonnade into the church.

ALL attending Mass (over two years old) are asked to wear a mask. *Please bring your own mask and hand sanitizer if possible.* Masks (if needed) will be available on a table in the middle of the Rotunda as well as at the three doors in the Colonnade leading into Church.

Hand sanitizer will also be available for use before entry at the three doors in the Colonnade leading into church.

**In the Church:**

There will be no holy water in the stoups. Holy water will remain available for use at home in the closed container in the Colonnade.

Every other pew will be closed. Closed pews will be ribboned-off.

The middle section of each available pew will be marked "No sitting" to maintain social distancing between family groups.

Families may sit together, but individuals will be asked to sit one person to each half of a full pew.

**Sunday Procedures:** Altar servers will not be used during this time of virus precautions. Similarly, gift bearers will not bring up the gifts.

The collection will not be taken up at the usual time. Rather, people should make their offering on the way to receiving Holy Communion.

Holy Communion will be distributed from the heads of the side aisles, not from the center aisle. The center aisle of church will be for returning to the pews after receiving Communion at the sides. In short, the communion pattern will be reversed.

It could be that communion stations will be added/returned to the midpoint of the church in the near future.

The Precious Blood will not be distributed, only the Host. The Host will only be distributed in the hand.

Blue lines will mark the floor in the side aisles showing where to stand while in line for Holy Communion. Please remain in your pew until you see a blue line available to stand on.

At the second pew from the front will be 2 items: 1) a collection basket where one may leave an offering while going to Communion, and 2) hand sanitizer to use before receiving Holy Communion.

At the end of Mass, it is recommended that everyone exits the building (practicing social distancing) through the closest exterior door. We do not want to create a crowd all trying to exit through the Rotunda.