



## St. Clement Catholic Church

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July 3, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

I just wanted to let you know what is going on in the parish during the pandemic so that you will be aware. I realize that some of you may not use the internet and are unaware of some of the changes in the schedule of events at St. Clement. Also, I wanted to introduce some ideas that might be of use to you who are unable to attend Mass.

We have been having a 3:30pm Vigil Mass for persons over 65 years of age. That Mass has the largest number in attendance. The 5 pm Vigil Mass on Saturday is not very crowded as well as the 8am Mass and the 12 noon Spanish Mass. At these Masses there is still plenty of room for social distancing. I have also begun to say Mass at 6:30pm on Thursday in Spanish. This is followed by the regular Holy Hour of Adoration in Spanish. There is also a Holy Hour on Sunday evening at 6pm in English.

We are live streaming the Sunday 10:30am Mass and the 12:00pm Spanish Mass. If you can not attend Mass these are available to view on the St. Clement Facebook page. We also put the bulletin on our St. Clement Web Page. These are available in English and Spanish. You may also come by the Church in the mornings from 9:00am until 11:00am for private prayer or you may call if there is another time that you would like to come to the Church for personal prayer. Confessions have been moved to 9:00am-10:00am on Saturdays due to the 3:30pm Mass.

If you don't use or have access to the internet, we are considering sending a letter and or bulletin on a regular basis to those households that would like to receive them. In that case you would need to inform us giving us your current address and we would send them to you. We will do this depending on the response of those wishing to receive them. These letters would have reflections on the weekend readings, sort of a short homily or other spiritual reflection. These would be prepared by the deacons or myself.

Since we are not allowed to place the Hymnals and missalettes in the pews we have missalettes just sitting in boxes. We will place them at the entrance of the Church so that if you would like to take one home for use or take one to bring to Mass with you, they will be available. If you take one to use at Mass, you will be required to take them home with you and bring them back the next weekend. If they are left in the pew, we will have to throw them away. I will have Bonnie Griffin, our music director, choose hymns from the Missalette so that you can follow along with the songs. The Missalettes are good through November 28th. Since we have no timeline as to when Masses will be completely back to normal it would be better if they be used than thrown away. If you are not attending Mass, you can contact the office if you would like a Missalette to use at home.

Even though Mass attendance is low the bills are almost the same as before the pandemic. If you are able to contribute, you may do so by mailing in your donation or may donate on-line. The information for online giving is on the St. Clement Web page. You may also drop your donations off at the Church.

We are just beginning to investigate alternatives on how to address the children's religion classes. We may find on-line programs for that as many of the companies are working toward that goal. Another possibility is to combine some of the classes and teach in larger areas of the parish like the Marian Center and the Church. This would allow for adequate social distancing. If this is done, we would not be able to do the classes on Sunday so we would need to choose some days during the week when classes would be held. If we do have on site classes, we would provide textbooks for any parents who do not feel comfortable sending their children to classes. In that case the parents could teach the lessons to their children.

God's Peace,

Fr. Jeff Polasek

P.S. contact us if you want to receive info. by mail.