

Frequently Asked Questions about the Re-opening of Public Masses

Welcome back to Mass at Queen of the Apostles Parish! Your safety and health are so important to us, so please read on about the precautions we are taking. We know that just because we are gathering again, it doesn't mean the risk to contracting the coronavirus (or any illness) is gone. Many of us do not feel comfortable gathering in a public place yet, and that is absolutely fine. You need to do what is best for you at this time!

Everyone is welcome to sign up to attend Masses. However, those who are feeling ill or displaying flu-like symptoms are asked to stay home. We are encouraging those over 65 years old and those with underlying health conditions to also stay home, but we will submit to your prudential decision on this matter. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass is still dispensed until further notice.

How Many People Can Come to a Mass?

The Diocese of La Crosse is directing that we can allow up to 25% of our church's seating capacity, which is about 70 people at St. Mary and 25 at St. Andrew. However, another parameter is that there needs to be six feet between each person/family, so it could be less at any given Mass.

What are the Mass Times?

Saturday – 4:00pm and 5:30pm (St. Mary) and 6:00pm (St. Andrew)

Sunday – 7:30am, 9:00am, and 10:30am (St. Mary)

How Do I Sign Up?

Any time after Monday at noon, click the link on our website to sign up for Mass. From there, select the church, date and time of the Mass you wish to attend. If the time you are looking for can't be selected, that means that it has reached capacity, and you will need to select a different Mass. *Signing up only guarantees your reservation for that particular date and time, so you will need to sign up each week.*

It is possible that not everyone who would like to attend Mass will be able to each weekend. We will need to reevaluate and potentially tweak our process as we go along to make sure everyone who wishes to attend Mass can do so.

***If there are no more available times online, please call the parish office to check if there are any spaces left, as we keep some available offline for those without internet access.

Will Masses Still Be Live Streamed if I Am Not Able to Come?

Yes! Since the obligation to attend is still lifted, we will be live streaming Mass on our Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/QueenOfTheApostles) on Sunday at 9:00am.

What Should I Know About Coming to Church?

As a part of our directives, we will be cleaning the church between each Mass. For the sake of your health and for the ease of cleaning for our volunteers, please don't arrive to Mass more than 20 minutes before Mass.

St. Mary: The main doors facing the street will remain locked. Please use the side doors to enter and exit church (the entrance by the elevator and the entrance by Mary's Garden). While entering and exiting, please keep six feet between you and nearby families.

Ushers will be directing each person/family to a marked pew upon your entrance, so you will not be able to come in and seat yourself. There might be a bit of a wait to come in, so please be patient!

Hand sanitizing stations will be at each entrance for your use.

Do I need to wear a mask?

As of August 1, 2020, the State of Wisconsin is mandating the usage of face coverings in public locations, so until the mandate is lifted, masks are required.

Can I Go to Confession on Saturday before Mass?

In order to not create confusion about seating, we are cancelling the Sacrament of Confession on Saturdays at 3:15pm for the time being. Confession will still be held on Tuesdays from 4:30pm-5:15pm, and Thursdays from 5:00pm-6:00pm.

What if I Have Other Questions?

Please call the parish office with any questions or concerns. We will be happy to talk through any issue. Since this is our first foray with this situation, your patience and flexibility is so appreciated!