

HOLY TRINITY PARISH
P. O. Box 910
Tracyton, WA 98393
(360) 377-7674 / Fax (360) 377-6181
www.htcbremerton.org

June 15, 2020

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

I am pleased to be able to announce that at long last, we will begin the public celebration of Masses again this weekend, June 20/21. The Scripture readings for this Sunday remind us that we have great cause to rejoice because we are greatly loved by God, and as our Responsorial Psalm proclaims, the Lord hears the cry of the poor who call out to him. He revives their drooping hearts and spirits. Let us give praise and thanks to God for the constancy of his kindness and mercy toward us and that he has answered our prayers as we begin to share the joy of being able to gather together again!

I would like to share with you about what you may expect in the days and weeks ahead. Our long anticipated reopening does not mark a return to the way things were before the pandemic. There is much that will be different that will require each of us to adapt, change, and move out of our comfort zones and what is familiar to us. We will all have the opportunity to practice Christian charity, kindness, and deeds of love as we seek to protect the health and well-being of all members of our community, especially the vulnerable and at-risk persons in our parish family. Our parish staff has been working diligently behind the scenes to implement the reopening requirements of Governor Inslee and to follow the directives and guidance of our archdiocese that will become our "New Normal" for the foreseeable future in order to ensure that we can gather safely and celebrate with reverence and respect the sacred liturgy of the Mass and the sacramental life of the church and of our parish community. The following are details for weekly Mass registration and attendance.

- ***The obligation to attend Sunday Mass is still dispensed so no one is required to attend Mass in person.*** We will begin slowly with the **celebration of six Masses per week – three on the weekend (Saturday at 5:00pm, Sunday at 8:00am and 9:45am, and three weekday Masses on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 9:00am).** This will allow us to evaluate how things are going and to make any needed changes and adjustments along the way to serve the needs of our worshipping community. All Masses will be celebrated in the church.
- ***We will continue to livestream Mass at 9:45am each Sunday*** for those choosing not to participate, or those unable to participate at this time due to vulnerability or at risk factors.
- Our online Mass Reservation Scheduler will be available on our parish website on Tuesday, June 16th. Attendance at each Mass will be limited to **50 persons, ONLY**, who have preregistered. You will be able to sign up to participate in only **ONE Mass every four weeks** so that all parishioners have the opportunity to attend. If you do not pre-register you will not be admitted to the church.
- Thirty reservations will be taken online, and twenty by telephone in the parish office for those without computers or internet access. Once the maximum is reached no one else will be able to sign up. Reservations will close at 3:00pm each Friday.
- At the time of registration, either online or by telephone, you will be asked to provide the names of all family members attending, including children, and contact information, i.e. telephone number and email address for each person, as applicable. In the event of a positive COVID-19 test by one of our parishioners, we need to be able to notify those who may have been exposed.

- *If you need to cancel a reservation that you have made, please call the parish office as soon as possible in order to allow that space at Mass to be filled by others.*
- *We will be diligent in taking every precaution to maintain a safe and sanitary environment on our parish campus. That being said, each person attends Mass at their own risk. If you are vulnerable due to age or underlying health condition(s), or are at risk to transmit the virus to a family member, we ask you to **PLEASE stay home and stay safe.***
- *You must do a health self-assessment for COVID-19 symptoms before coming to Mass. In the last 14 days, have you:*
 - *Travelled internationally?*
 - *Been exposed to a person with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 without the correct Personal Protective Equipment?*
 - *Had a temperature of at least 100.0° F?*
 - *Had increased shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?*
 - *Had a new cough? Had at least two of the following symptoms together – Chills, Muscle Pain, Headache, Sore Throat, New Loss of Taste or Smell?*
 - *Those with symptoms are asked to stay at home. Those with a temperature of 100.4° will not be permitted.*
 - *If you answer “YES” to any of these questions, **DO NOT come to Mass.***
- ***Physical distancing of at least six feet apart must be practiced at all times** on parish property to include Mass attendance and visiting our parish offices. Social distancing must be observed in the parking lots as well when you enter and leave the church.*
- ***The use of face masks or coverings is mandatory** for all parishioners for Mass attendance and visiting our parish offices. If you do not have a mask, one will be provided for you.*
- *Entrance to the church will only be permitted through the north double doors in the Faith Formation wing. Exiting the church after Mass will only be permitted through the doors on the west side of the building after you have received Holy Communion. This will be a challenge for some but is required for social distancing.*
- *When you arrive for Mass, an usher will be at the entrance to the church to check your name off the printed attendance list. A collection box will be available at the entrance of the church to receive your contributions. Your hands will be sprayed with hand sanitizer as you enter. **Please be sure to plan your schedule to arrive no later than five minutes before Mass starts as the doors will be closed as soon as Mass begins.***
- ***You will not be able to select your seat at Mass.** The church will be filled from back to front to minimize exposure to other parishioners and to keep required safe distancing. An usher will escort you to your seat. **Family members living in the same household** will be able to sit together. All others will sit six feet apart.*
- *Holy communion will be distributed at the conclusion of Mass **in the hand only** after the final blessing. After communion you will exit the church to the parking lot and not return to your pew.*
- *The only available restrooms will be the two disabled restrooms in the Faith Formation hallway. You may use either restroom, but only one person will be permitted at a time unless you are assisting a child or family member with a disability.*

Please remember that all of these measures are only temporary. I appreciate your patience and understanding as we move together with love and care for each other through this uncharted territory. May God bless us all!

Verónica Kelley

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO



1

STAY HOME
if you're sick



2

REGISTER
ahead of time



3

WEAR
A MASK



4

6 FEET
APART



5

NO KISS
OF PEACE



6

NO
SINGING

"I pray that we see courage, kindness, and selfless acts of love that foster community, help the needy, and encourage everyone to grow stronger in their faith and relationship with Jesus Christ. This is what it means to be Catholic."

- Archbishop Paul D. Etienne



CHANGES YOU'LL SEE



PHYSICAL DISTANCING



NO PROCESSIONS



NO PASSED BASKETS



NO HOLY WATER OR INCENSE



NO CUP



COMMUNION IN THE HAND AT THE END



DISMISSED ONE ROW AT A TIME

"I pray that we see courage, kindness, and selfless acts of love that foster community, help the needy, and encourage everyone to grow stronger in their faith and relationship with Jesus Christ. This is what it means to be Catholic."

– Archbishop Paul D. Etienne

