



Hello Fellow Parishioners in Christ,

Nov. 18, 2020

First and foremost, thank you for your patience as we collectively gathered information and ideas on “HOW” we can continue to celebrate Mass at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, *given* that our County (Solano), has recently been declared in the “purple tier” category. ***What does this mean for all of us?*** Well, **we are once again . . . back OUTDOORS for Mass.** As you can imagine, being outdoors during this time of the year imposes additional challenges— inclement weather, inconvenience, etc.

“This is a heartbreaking decision. My brother priests and many parishioners have worked very hard to provide safe, responsible, outdoor and indoor environments for the Faithful to praise God and receive the sacraments.” “Unfortunately, due to lack of diligence in other social sectors, the rates of COVID-19 infection are surging to dangerous levels.” ~ Bishop Jaime Soto

WHAT: The State has announced that Solano County, along with 40 other Counties, is reverting back to widespread purple tier due to a rapid rise in cases over the last couple weeks. A return to the purple tier severely impacts local businesses, gatherings, gyms, places of worship, etc., that will now have to close indoor operations or reduce capacity, **effective** November 17, 2020. Having stated, the Public Celebration of Masses at OLMC will now be offered OUTDOORS. **Read further for DETAILS.**

WHEN: For these Mass times and dates **ONLY** — November 19th, 20th and 21st—the 9 AM Daily Masses and Saturday 5PM Vigil Mass will be celebrated in the Courtyard— “just like before.” **HOWEVER**, starting Sunday, November 22, 2020 **ALL Masses** (8AM, 10AM, Noon and 6PM) **and GOING FORWARD, ALL MASSES** will be celebrated “DRIVE-IN” style (protocol) for those wishing to attend Mass. This protocol allows you to attend Mass while IN YOUR CAR, as Mass is offered outdoors in public view.

WHERE: The Public Celebration of Masses will be offered OUTDOORS in OLMC’s Parking Lot as you REMAIN in your car.

HOW:

- Enter OLMC’s Parking Lot, **REMAIN in your car for the ENTIRE duration of the Mass.**
- **SOUND SYSTEM:** Through the use of a highly rated wireless broadcasting—you will be able to hear Mass through your car radio. Participants can tune into the Mass service on their car stereos. Please tune-in to FM Radio 107.5 once you enter OLMC’s Parking Lot.
- **COMMUNION:** Communion will be offered **AFTER the Final Blessing**. Please listen carefully for verbal instructions on **how** and **when** to **SAFELY DRIVE-UP to receive Communion**. There will be ONE Eucharistic Minister who will be assisting the celebrant Priest, to offer Communion to the Faithful. **Please remain in your CAR as you receive Communion.**
- **OFFERING:** For those who tithe weekly— Offertories, Special Collections, etc., will be collected by an OLMC Usher as you DRIVE-UP to receive Communion. Note: If you have any questions on how to set-up your Offertory Giving via “Online,” please contact the Parish Office, (707) 422-7767.
- **THE EXIT:** Immediately exit OLMC’s Parking Lot **AFTER** receiving Communion / Blessing. Please be cognizant of other cars and people—as you safely and slowly drive out of OLMC’s property.

“Catholics in the Diocese of Sacramento are still dispensed from attending Sunday Mass. They may keep holy the Lord’s Day by attending Mass through the internet or other media as well as practicing other religious devotions.”

~ Bishop Jaime Soto

WHY: We have determined that the “Drive-In” protocol “way” to celebrate in-person Mass will allow our parishioners to be most comfortable as we enter the Winter Season ahead.

WHO: Due to the current restrictions—the ONLY people ALLOWED inside the Church will be the ministers and clergy, who are scheduled to serve at Mass—i.e. celebrant Priest, Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Sacristans, Musicians, Ushers. Note: Given the logistics of how we will be celebrating Mass, Altar Servers will not be needed at this time.

Please contact the Parish Office if you have any questions, 707-422-7767 / olmc.gem@gmail.com