

July 14, 2020

Dear OLMC Parishioners,

Due to the rise of the infections and deaths related to COVID-19 virus, Gov. Newsom announced on Monday, July 13, 2020, the closure of indoor activities that affected several counties in California, which includes Solano County! **Effective immediately, the celebration of Masses (indoors) at OLMC has been suspended until further notice.** However, we have received new Directives from Bishop Soto, Diocese of Sacramento – who asked us to plan to consider the celebration of Masses outdoors! After carefully assessing OLMC’s campus, inventory supplies (chairs, tables, etc) and most importantly, HOW we can accomplish “Outdoor Mass” ***safely for our Parishioners*** – we are excited to report that we will begin the celebration of Outdoor Masses starting Saturday, July 18th at 7 PM!

Having stated, please note the following **changes** to our **weekend Mass schedule**:

- Saturday Vigil, 7 PM
- Sunday Masses: 8 AM, 10 AM and 7 PM

Due to potential inclement weather, we have adjusted the afternoon Masses to be celebrated when the weather will most likely be more tolerable for every one’s comfort.

Other schedules will remain the same:

- **Daily Mass, 9 AM** – Monday through Saturday (outdoor), ***effective July 20, 2020.***
- Confessions, 3 PM – 4 PM on Saturdays (indoor, “as usual”).

Directives for the Celebration of Outdoor Masses:

- 1) The Guidelines for the Resumption of the Public Celebration of the Sacrifice of the Mass remain normative for outdoor celebrations.
- 2) In remaining compliant with our local ordinances regarding outdoor gatherings, the “maximum 100” capacity no longer apply; however, we are limited to the number of chairs / 6-feet apart, that our Courtyard can accommodate. ***OLMC will provide chairs for your seating pleasure.***
- 3) The **Wednesday / Thursday “call-in”** days to reserve for seat at Mass – is **NO LONGER necessary**. We welcome those who wish to attend Mass at OLMC on a “first-come-first serve” basis. Seats will be LIMITED to what our Courtyard can accommodate, given “social distancing” protocols.
- 4) Contract tracing will still be enforced. As you enter the Courtyard, an Usher will happily take down your name - adapting to our Daily Mass protocols.
- 5) Temperature check and mask / face covering are still required and will remain 100% enforced.
- 6) Physical distancing must also be observed during the entire celebration of the Mass.

- 7) Weather conditions and high temperatures may be problematic and uncomfortable for some people – for health and safety precautions, we strongly suggest to wear appropriate clothing, sunscreen, etc.
- 8) Tents and awnings are NOT to be used, except for the sanctuary area.
- 9) The use of hats and umbrellas to provide shade are permissible. Those seated in the sanctuary area should NOT wear hats nor sunglasses.
- 10) The consumption of food and drink during Mass is NOT permitted; however, for hydration reasons, water may be consumed during Mass.
- 11) Congregants should take reasonable precautions – face covering, physical distancing, and hand sanitizing – to protect themselves from possible infection of COVID-19.
- 12) Congregants are invited to remain standing during the Eucharistic Prayer.
- 13) There will be designated chairs for those serving at Mass: EM, Lector and Ushers.
- 14) During Communion, signs and instructions will be clearly marked in order to keep the appropriate physical distancing among communicants. An OLMC Usher will happily guide you. Additionally, it is HIGHLY recommended to receive the Body of Christ on the hand; however, those communicant(s) who wish to receive communion on the tongue may do so at the end of the communion line. Please wait until the “communion on hand finishes”, THEN, come up for the reception of communion on the tongue.
- 15) Until further notice, singing and chanting should be omitted.
- 16) Drive in style Masses, where people sit in their cars during Mass are NOT permitted. *Seating must be in chairs.***
- 17) At the recessional / when Mass has ended, an Usher will guide your exit out of the Courtyard in a manner that allows social distancing.
- 18) Bathrooms: Please use the bathrooms located in the Dome.
- 19) We will launch **LIVE STREAM MASS . . . July 19th!** Please visit OLMC website – olmcfairfield.org and [Facebook.com/olmcfairfield](https://www.facebook.com/olmcfairfield).
- 20) Having stated item #19, above – when rain is in the forecast, Mass will be available Live-Stream, only.
- 21) Reminder: Unnecessary gatherings are to be AVOIDED as much as possible after the recessional.
- 22) Keep smiling . . . “this too shall pass.”