

ST. CLARE CATHOLIC CHURCH

7701 SOMERSET RD PHONE (210) 924-5252 FAX (210) 924-1613
ALTERNATE NUMBER (210) 996-1371 www.stclaresatx.net

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78211

Dear Parishioners,

Monday, May 18, 2020

(Letter #3)

May this letter finds you well. Very good news: Our Archbishop Gustavo García-Siller has announced that the public celebration of daily masses resume on Tuesday, May 19, and the weekend Masses on May 23 & 24, the Solemnity of the Ascension of Our Lord. However, the faithful are dispensed from the Sunday Obligation and this continues until Archbishop revokes it due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

At the moment, our parish has established some guidelines and rules that we all need to follow based on the restrictions of the City and the Archdiocese of San Antonio (**social distancing-5 feet, wear a mask, sanitizing, etc..**) If we fail to follow these guidelines the Archdiocese will cancel our **public masses until we return to the regular schedule**. Deeper communication, profound personal, social responsibility and **patience** are necessary from you and family members.

1) Mass Schedule: Weekday Masses: Monday, Wednesday and Friday - Spanish Mass 8am.; Tuesday and Thursday - English Mass 8am. **in the Church Building - the maximum capacity is 35 People.**

Weekend Masses: Vigil Mass: Saturday 5:00pm - English Mass. Sunday: 8:30am - Spanish; 10:30am English Mass will be celebrated in the parish hall. **The maximum capacity is 100 people including the priest, deacon, lector and ministers** (Only 25% of Church and Hall seating capacity is allowed with social distancing (6 feet)).

Archbishop Gustavo strongly **encourages the elderly and at-risk population to please stay home and participate in Mass by means of Catholic Television or parish's live streaming**. You can follow the mass in our Face Book page of Stclaresatx or YouTube Channel: Fr Richard Samour. **This is a temporary schedule until the mandate is revoked by the Archdiocese.**

Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confessions will be on Saturdays from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. or by appointment during the week, call the office (210) 924-5252

Guidelines: Weekend Masses:

- 1. Attending Weekend Mass:** Two options: 1) Please call the office and make a reservation. You will need to let us know how many are in your family and the Mass Service you will be attending (Only one). When you arrive for Mass please inform the usher that you have a reservation and the usher will guide you to your seats. Please decide which Mass you want to regularly attend at this time. 2) Or you can come on the day/time of the mass and wait if there is available seat. I suggest to call the office. **We can't allow more than 100 people. Please be early at least 15 min. before the Mass start.**
- 2. Entering the Hall:** **Only the front door will be open.** Everyone needs to be wearing a mask. If you do not have a mask, you will not be able enter into the hall. Mask will be available for purchase (\$5) at front door. We have limited number.
3. As you enter, you will be asked to sanitize your hands. Paper towels and sanitizer will be provided for you.
4. The ushers will guide you to your seat. **Please do not move the chairs.**
5. Chairs will be set up at the 6 feet apart requirement. Family members 2-4 (only) can seat and receive communion together, ask the usher for assistance. There are designed areas for it.
6. We will have a designated area for anyone with a disability.
7. **You must wear your mask at all time while in the hall (during the celebration).**

Communion

1. An Extraordinary Minister will be placed in front of every other row.
2. One at a time, you will rise from your seat; walk to receive communion in your hand (**ONLY**) - lower your mask. Once you have placed the Host in your mouth please put your mask back on. Return to your seats.

St. Clare Catholic Church... "Where Everybody is Somebody"

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Offertory

1. There will be baskets placed in the back of the hall for your offerings. Baskets for cash only and a few for Envelopes. Please do not mix it.

Exiting

1. You will be able to exit through the main door or through the front left door of the hall.
2. The ushers will show you to the exits. Please try to maintain the 6 feet separation as you exit. **No socializing in the Hall.** Before and after each mass the Hall will be disinfected, this will take some time, so please leave as soon as possible. However, if you want to socialize, please do so OUTSIDE so the cleaning crew can get to work disinfecting for the next mass.

Miscellaneous

1. Due to the possible contamination of human touch, there will be NO BOOKS (Misallettes) and/or music books. You can bring your own Mass book or buy a Misallete for \$3.00. When you call the office let us know if you need one.
2. Choir is limited to 3-4 people only, respecting social distancing.
3. Only one person or same family members will be allowed into the Bathrooms at a time. There will be people monitoring the bathrooms.
4. Water will be available for purchase (\$1) at the back of the hall.

Other:

5. The Annual Festival has been reschedule on **Sunday, September 27** at Mission County Park **if the city and the Archdiocese of San Antonio allow our celebration.**
6. All ministry breakfasts, Ministry meetings (ACTS, Youth Ministry, Guadalupanas and Altar Society, Knights of Columbus) and other group meetings such as Pastoral Council, Faith Formation (CCD), Bible study, Men's group, etc... **are cancelled (May 19-August 31)** in our parish premises **-NO EXCEPTIONS-**. You can have it through zoom or another platform
7. All Hall events have been cancelled and/or re-scheduled.
8. The safety of our community is priority and it is my responsibility monitoring as your pastor.
9. We applied and were approved for the CARE Act (Government) loan program through the Small Business Administration (\$26,000). We are uncertain as to whether we will be liable to repay the loan, but we will have to wait for the final decision. In any event, this will help us meet our payroll and pay our utilities. So please I ask you to continue supporting our Church either way bringing your contribution to the office or online given: www.stclaresatx.net OFFERING/OFRENDA

Finally, I thank you for all your support and prayers to our parish during this time, may we draw our strength from the abundance of God's love manifested through the sacrificial love of Jesus Christ. May the powerful intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe help us in these times uncertainty and bestow her manifold blessings upon us.

Your servant,

Fr. Richard M. Samour

St. Clare Pastor

Parish Number: (210) 924-5252

"*Prefiero el Paraíso.*" St. Felipe Neri

"*To be of one mind with the Church*" San Oscar Arnulfo Romero.