



IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DIRECTION ABOUT RETURNING TO MASS SAINT ELEANOR CATHOLIC CHURCH COLLEGEVILLE

There is great news to share! Archbishop Pérez has announced that the parishes of our Archdiocese will be able to resume public Masses. We here at Saint Eleanor look forward to welcoming you back! We will begin public celebration of Masses on Monday, June 8 at 9 AM. This date allows us sufficient time to prepare the Church and get in place the necessary protocols that are being required. **Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus as we make our way back to the in-person celebration of the Mass.**

While Montgomery County remains in the Yellow Phase of the statewide reopening, all of us need to do our part to make sure that our return to Mass is a peaceful and safe experience for all. Please take the time to read the instructions below. We ask everyone to follow these guidelines when attending Mass during this restricted period.

GENERAL POINTS

- The obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation continues to be lifted during the Yellow Phase. You are **not** required to attend Mass at this time.
- Please stay home if you are sick, feel ill or have a fever.
- Please stay home if you are at higher risk of severe illness with COVID19. If you are uncertain about your risk status, please consult your doctor and also the CDC Guidelines at the link below.
 - Click here to read the CDC Guidelines for those at higher risk:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-higher-risk.html>
- Mass will continue to be available to all **via live-stream**.
 - Our Mass being celebrated at 10 AM will continue to be live-streamed. You will be able to find it on our website, our YouTube channel, our Facebook page. Once it is aired, it remains available on those various platforms. Remember there are

many live-stream Masses around the country including at our Cathedral. Mass is also available on television such as at EWTN.

MASS SCHEDULE ~ Revised due to need for cleaning and sanitizing

- **WEEKDAY** ~ 9 AM only – Monday through Saturday (*in Main Church*)
- **WEEKEND** ~ VIGIL MASS – 4:30 PM Saturday
SUNDAY – 7:30, 10 AM and 12:30 PM

BEFORE COMING TO MASS

- Please wash your hands for 20 seconds using soap and water.
- Before entering the Church, please put on a face mask or cloth covering. Exceptions to this are “children younger than 2 years old, anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious, and anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance” (CDC Guidelines).
- Please do not come to Mass if you are sick or are at higher risk for severe illness with COVID19 (see above).
- Missalettes will not be in the pews during this period. You are welcome to bring your own missal/readings with you. There will be a limited supply of Missalettes available for you to take home with you. Please do not leave them in Church for they will be removed. A WORSHIP AID (included in the Parish Bulletin) will be available both on-line and for pick up coming into Church. When leaving, please take this with you, it cannot be reused.

PARKING & ENTERING THE CHURCH

- Please use the two top level parking lots ~ the one as you come in off Sixth Avenue and the one off the driveway from Locust Street in front of the Church main entrance.
- For now, there will be one way into Church – one door at the Main Entrance of the Narthex facing Locust Street. There will be one way out of Church the other side of Church going out towards the Sixth Avenue parking lot.
- Hand sanitizers will be available at the Church entrances. Please use the hand sanitizer upon entering and exiting the Church.
- As you enter into the Church proper, you will be able to pick up a Worship Aid (which will be included in the Parish Bulletin) to use during Mass and then to take home with you. Please do not leave it in Church.
- Also, as you enter Church, there will be baskets to accept your Sunday donation envelopes. *All envelopes for any weekend or even second collections can be placed together in the same baskets.* We will not take up a physical collection during the Offertory of the Mass. Please place your donations/envelopes into the marked baskets as you enter.
- You will also notice round disc markers on the pavement and floors indicating six feet distancing to help you social distance coming into, going from, and moving around in the Church.

- In the event that the number of people coming to a particular Mass, exceeds the available seating in the Church/Chapel, we will have an “overflow” option available in the school gym. Information concerning that, if needed, will be provided by our team of greeters at that time.

SEATING

- When taking a seat in Church, please honor all posted signs about where you may sit. Every third pew will be available to ensure proper social distancing. Blue painter’s tape will also indicate within the pew, six feet distancing.
- Due to these current restrictions, you most likely will not be sitting in your usual place in Church. Your cooperation is deeply appreciated.
- Members of the same household may sit together as normal. Please place 6 feet between your household and members of a different household. We will have the Church divided into sections, to facilitate areas for families, couples and single attendees.
- We will have a team of helpers to welcome you and to help you navigate your way into Church and your way out of Church.

DURING MASSES CELEBRATED IN THIS YELLOW PHASE

- There will be a cantor and organist or an organist only at all the Masses except for the 7:30 AM. However, there will be no congregational singing. Much of the music will be instrumental.
- As noted above, there will be no collection taken up during the Offertory of Mass. Please place your collection envelope into the marked baskets as you enter the Church.
- There will be no Sign of Peace during Mass.
- The Precious Blood will not be distributed during Mass.
- There should be no holding of hands during the Our Father.

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

- If you are uncomfortable about receiving Holy Communion during this time, that is fine. You do not have to receive and you can make a Spiritual Communion in your place.
- For the reception of Holy Communion, we will **not** use the main aisle to approach the Sanctuary. Those in the pews off the center aisle, please go out of your pew to the side aisle, move to the front where the Communion Minister will be and return by the center aisle to your seat. Those on the side sections, are asked to use the same aisle for Communion and to return by the far outside aisles to your seat.
- Please maintain social distancing in the Communion line. Please keep several pews between yourself and the person in front of you while in line and when returning to your pew. Also, hand sanitizers will be available at the front of the Communion line for your personal use if you wish before receiving Holy Communion.
- During the Yellow Phase, the **faithful are asked to receive Holy Communion in the hand**. If there is a need to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, please wait until Holy Communion has been distributed to the rest of the Church. A priest will go to the center of the Sanctuary, main aisle. You are asked to approach him there, remembering

social distancing. He will purify/sanitize his fingers in-between each communicant. Then return to your seat in Church.

- Gloves may not be worn to receive Holy Communion in the hand. Please remove the gloves to receive Holy Communion or consider receiving on the tongue as outlined above.
- When you approach the Communion Minister, please keep your mask on until you have responded “Amen.” Once the Host has been placed onto your hand, move to the side, remove your mask, receive Our Blessed Lord, then replace your mask to return to your pew.

EXITING THE CHURCH

- At the conclusion of Mass, please exit the Church and proceed directly to your car. Our welcoming team will assist you by sections to proceed to the exit near the Cry Room. Please do not congregate for any reason. The Church needs to be cleaned and sanitized before the next celebration.
- Please take the parish bulletin/worship aid home with you.
- Please leave your mask on until you exit the Church.

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU

Our parish staff and team are committed to following the guidelines from the CDC for sanitation as we resume public Masses.

- To view the CDC guidelines, visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/faith-based.html>
- Our service company, Transcend Facility Management Company, will be doing a deep cleaning of the Church before we open, especially since we are having several maintenance items accomplished beforehand ~ wiring for our live streaming, replacement of many light bulbs along with dusting of the higher elevations of the Church.
- In between the Masses, they are providing the appropriate sanitizing liquids to be used within the building. We also are ensuring that the Church is vacant for at least an hour before the next Mass begins.

FINAL THOUGHTS

This is a lot of information and a lot to digest. This is an unprecedented time with much uncertainty. None of us have ever lived through such an event as the threat this pandemic poses to all of us. We pray for proper vaccines and medications that will help cure the virus.

In the meantime, we trust in the Lord Jesus who does not abandon us but walks with us and leads us. We keep our eyes on Him and not on the storm around us. With abiding charity, prudence, patience and undiminished hope, we rejoice to worship together in this Yellow Phase.

God bless you and God love you!!