



## WE ARE GLAD YOU CAN JOIN US

### ATTENDING MASS OR ADORATION? — WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**SHOULD I COME:** Remember, during the pandemic, Cardinal Seán has dispensed the faithful from the obligation to attend Mass in person. **If you are sick or not feeling well, please do not come to church. If you have experienced any of the following symptoms within the 48 hours prior to Mass, please do not come:** Fever or chills, Cough, Shortness of Breath or Difficulty Breathing, Headache, New Loss of Taste or Smell, Congestion or Runny Nose, Nausea, Vomiting or Diarrhea.

Cardinal Seán and Bishop Mark strongly encourage people in vulnerable populations, especially the elderly, those with complicating physical conditions, and those who live with someone who falls in these groups, to continue to watch Mass from their homes.

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU COME:** We are following all state, town, and archdiocesan safety protocols. **North Reading is currently in the RED Zone.** This means we will **take the name (first and last) and contact number** of one member of each household and the number of people attending. Also, we will **take temperatures** of everyone who comes to Mass. In addition, seating is spaced, **masks must be worn over the nose and mouth** (unless under the age of two), and we ask everyone to be aware of maintaining the appropriate social distancing when entering and exiting the church and processing up for Communion. In addition, **all seating is sanitized after every Mass** by our volunteers. If you can, please bring your own hand sanitizer. We will have a limited supply available.

**WHEN YOU ARRIVE:** For **Mass on weekends or Holy Days of Obligation**, enter the church through the front doors only. For **Adoration or daily Mass** enter at the side door by the rectory-side parking lot. **We will take the contact information for one member of your household to comply with contact tracing.** A volunteer will take your temperature using a touchless thermometer. **If your temperature is over 100 degrees, per Archdiocesan mandates, you can not enter the church.**

Once the church reaches our safe capacity we will seat parishioners in socially distanced chairs in the hall and hall foyer. If you would prefer to sit in the hall let our greeters know and they will escort you to the hall.

**HOW IS SEATING SPACED FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING:** Every other pew is taped off to maintain the proper distance. Pews with the “Welcome” sign are available. There are blue taped crisscrossed areas on the pew that we ask you not to use. Various open areas of each row can sit a single person or up to five people in one family. The Cry Room will be open for one family with small children, per Mass.

**OTHER RESTRICTIONS TO BE AWARE OF:** The holy water fonts are empty; there are no missals available to follow the readings; **there can be no congregational singing** (only the cantor/music director will sing), so please refrain from singing; please, no holding of hands during the Our Father; and, there will be no sign of the peace.

**HOLY COMMUNION DURING MASS:** The presider and/or Eucharistic Minister will distribute Holy Communion at the front. As you leave your pew and enter the aisle, the floor is marked to help with social distancing. Please remember to keep six feet both from the person in front of you and the person on the other side of the aisle. The blue marks on the floor are staggered to achieve this.

In the Church: When you reach the front there are 5 spots on each side marked by tape. Stand on a spot (two members of the same family can stand in the same spot) and the priest or Eucharistic Minister will come to you there.

In the Hall or Foyer: A Eucharistic Minister will come to the Hall and give instructions.

Keep your mask on, receive in your hand, and after the Eucharistic Minister has left your spot consume the Eucharist and put your mask back on. Communicants can **only receive the consecrated Host in their hand.** Please do not wear gloves. There will be no distribution of the Precious Blood. Do not feel obligated to receive Communion if you are not comfortable yet and feel the risk is too high. You can still come to the front during Communion for a blessing. Place your arms across your chest to indicate you would like a blessing.

**WHEN MASS HAS ENDED:** You will exit the church using only the side doors at the front of the church. It would be helpful to sit on the side of the church where your car is parked. We ask that you proceed directly to your car and refrain from social gatherings either before or after Mass

**OFFERTORY:** There is no passing of the basket for the offertory. Instead baskets will be located at the exits if you would like to make an offering when you leave. You can also give through **Online Giving** or **Givebutter.**

Though we can have public gatherings of the Mass, we are only at a small percentage of normal Mass attendance. Yet, we still have our normal daily operation costs at the church and office. Please consider continuing your weekly donation. You can now give through a new platform called **Givebutter**

**We are grateful for your support!**

**"Text-to-Give"** by simply texting **"Theresa"** to **202-858-1233.** You will receive a message back with a link to click on. Once you click on the link our St. Theresa donation page will come to your phone.

Or, use the **QR code** to the right (using the camera on your phone), tap the link that appears at the top of your camera screen, and the same St. Theresa Church giving options will pop-up.

You can select "One-Time" or "Monthly" payment. Your donation can easily be paid by credit card, Venmo, or PayPal. Note there is a small processing fee for each transaction.



<https://osvonlinegiving.com/2996>



As the Coronavirus continues to impact our lives daily, please check our website or Facebook page (before you leave for Mass) for the most up-to-date information. We continue to follow protocols issued from the Governor's office, town of North Reading, and the Archdiocese of Boston.