

Saint Joseph CATHOLIC CHURCH

GUIDING OUR PUBLIC WORSHIP WHILE EMERGING FROM THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC JULY 2021 EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND LECTORS

As we continue to navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic, we are at the point in time when we can return to ministering as a Eucharistic Minister or Lector as you are accustomed to doing so. **Beginning July 31, 2021, please note:**

- Our live-streaming of both 4:30pm Saturday Mass and 10am Sunday Mass will continue. Although many have seen the camera angles of our Masses, if you are uncomfortable with the possibility that you might appear on a live-stream, you will have to attend another Mass. We have contacted all the senior facilities in our parish boundaries with this opportunity to attend Mass, in addition to the now-resumption of our Communion Services.
- Please continue to self-monitor for signs of illness: especially a fever of 100.4, cough, or shortness of breath; if these are present, you should not come to Mass and perhaps, consider a follow-up with your medical provider. **I cannot impress upon you how important your own overall health will remain for both you and our fellow parishioners.**
- Beginning this schedule (beginning July 31/August 1), we schedule two (2) lectors (at 4:30pm and 10am Mass, with only one (1) at 8am and Noon) and, at least, three (3) Eucharistic Ministers per Mass. The number of Eucharistic Ministers will naturally increase whenever we are permitted to resume the distribution of the Precious Blood. Our new Communion Stations remain: against the wall near the Tabernacle [A], in the Main Aisle [B] and [C-Presider], and finally against the wall near the Processional Cross [D]. Along with this email, we have included another copy of diagram of the Communion stations.
- While you are encouraged, if unvaccinated, at-risk, or more comfortable doing so, to continue wearing a facial covering, you no longer must wear facial coverings while distributing Communion. However, please continue sanitizing your hands before entering the sanctuary, after receiving Communion yourself, and following the distribution of Communion. We will keep the extra sanitizer under the table behind the altar.
- **We will return to ministering as a Eucharistic Minister or Lector as you were instructed when you were trained. Eucharistic Ministers do not process into church, while lectors will continue to do so.** Please consult your guidelines (<http://www.sjohio.org/litguide>) or speak to Doug Januszewski (Eucharistic Ministers) or Jackie Moore (Lectors) for reminders on your training.

- When your line has come to a conclusion, you may help another line but do so in by positioning yourself so that “traffic” flows properly and your assistance does not force people to cross over another line to follow the “traffic” flow. As always, return the ciborium to the altar so the Presider can consolidate the hosts. **You do not have to wait at the altar for the Presider or deacon to return nor do you have to “walk around” the highest step – please proceed directly to and from the altar.** And finally, as has been encouraged, sanitize your hands prior to returning to your seat.

Thank you for all you have done, especially this past year, and your commitment to your ministry! We do not anticipate any further updates relating to COVID-19 with the exception of the resumption of the distribution of the Precious Blood at some later date. If you have any questions about your ministry, please do not hesitate to ask one the sacristans, Father Kevin, me, or your coordinator. We are all willing to help the best that we can!

Please continue to stay healthy,
Fr. Joe