



# St. Alphonsus Liguori Catholic Church

14040 Greenwell Springs Rd., Greenwell Springs, LA 70739-3302

May 14, 2020

Dear St. Alphonsus Parish Family,

Bishop Duca has granted us permission to begin the gradual re-opening for public Masses. For now, Masses will be **limited to 25% capacity** for each parish in this Diocese. St. Alphonsus will be limited to no more than 150 parishioners for each Mass.

However, there is **no obligation to attend Sunday Mass at this time**. You are reminded to follow CDC recommendations **regarding your own health**. If you fall into an "at risk" category, or you are uncomfortable being in public please stay home and join us for Mass by Live Stream.

The first public Mass for St. Alphonsus will be the 4:00 PM Vigil Mass, on Saturday, May 16th and will be open to those parishioners who are 60 years and older. We have had requests to offer a Mass for this age group who are concerned that they are most "at risk." Our Sunday schedule for Masses will begin on May 17th, with 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 12 Noon Masses.

Our Live Stream will remain available at 10:00 AM on Sundays. Daily Mass will begin on Monday, May 18th at 8:30 AM in the church. Bishop Duca has given permission for the daily Masses to count for Sunday Mass. Daily Masses will be celebrated on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. There will be no Communion Service on Wednesday. Tuesday Mass and Novena will be Live Streamed.

Confessions will be available in St. Francis Room A & B beginning on Saturday, May 23 from 3:00-3:45 PM. You must wear a mask. The confession area will be set up for social distancing.

Adoration will be in the church beginning on Monday, May 18th and open Monday-Friday from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Mask and social distancing will be required.

This is part of Phase 1 of our parish re-opening and we will have **many new protocols** that all parishioners **must follow to attend Mass**. These procedures will be re-evaluated weekly. If you would like to attend Mass, please read through these instructions thoroughly. The instructions for these procedures will be available in a video and on our website and Facebook.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Fr. Mike*

Fr. Mike Moroney  
Pastor

JoAnn Stein  
Executive Director

## General Information

- **Facemasks are required** in the building and for the duration of Mass. Anyone not wearing a facemask that covers their mouth and nose will not be allowed to enter.
- **Remember your parents directives “Use the restroom before you leave home”**
- **All restrooms will be closed near the sacristy.**
- **After you have been counted please do not visit or congregate in the Gather Space. Go immediately to your pew.**
- The meeting rooms are closed.
- The sacristy is not open to visitors at any time.
- **Bring your own hand sanitizer.**
- Do not bring items that contain bleach into the church as this will damage the pews.
- Masks must be worn upon entering the church/administration building.
- **The church doors will be opened 30 minutes before Mass.**
- There will be no admittance into the building once Mass begins.
- Everyone coming to Mass must enter through the designated glass doors.
- You may share a pew with your household, but social distance (6 ft) is required between households.
- Only one person will be allowed in each restroom at a time. Wash hands for 20 seconds before returning to your seat.
- The holy water fonts will remain empty.
- Devotional candles will not be available at this time.

## Mass Procedures

- There will be no altar servers or choir.
- Please keep your face mask on for the duration of Mass.
- There is to be no physical contact at the sign of peace or hand holding during the Lord's Prayer.
- The gifts of Bread and Wine will not be processed.
- Baskets will not be passed during the offertory. You will be able to place your weekly gift in a basket in the back of church before or after the Mass. We strongly encourage that you continue online giving through “WeShare.”
- Missals and hymnals will not be available for Mass.

## Communion Procedures

- **Everyone is asked to receive Holy Communion in their hands for the safety of others.**
- The Precious Blood will not be offered to the congregation.
- Eucharistic Ministers will wash their hands and use sanitizer before distributing Holy Communion.
- There will be a single Communion line in the center of each main aisle.
- The procedure for the procession to receive Communion will abide by the 6ft distancing between each person in line.
- Facial masks must be worn in the Communion line. It is very important that the Eucharist Minister not touch the hands of the person receiving Communion.
- After you receive Communion please step to the side, remove your mask, consume the Eucharist 6 ft. away from the minister, and then re-mask as you return to your pew.

**Departure Procedures**

- Please leave the church as soon as Mass is over to allow the church to be sanitized for the next Mass.
- Only the main glass doors may be used for exiting after Mass.
- You can drop your weekly offertory as you enter or depart.
- Clergy will not greet or shake hands after Mass.
- Please do not congregate outside but head directly to your vehicle to allow the next Mass to start on time. Please dispose of your mask at home.

**Church Cleaning Procedures**

- We will continue to implement cleanliness and sanitization practices, including disinfecting pews between every Mass.
- Disinfecting bathrooms, door handles, and other frequently touched surfaces occur throughout the day and after each Mass.

The parish office will be open Monday – Friday from 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM. All meetings, as well as organizational and ministerial activities remain suspended until further notice.

Additional information will be forthcoming on a weekly basis as well as plans for the celebration of all sacraments: Weddings, Baptisms, First Communion and Confirmations. Please note that as we go forward, we will be announcing any changes that occur through our Live Stream, website and Facebook.

We are deeply grateful for your patience and cooperation as we begin these first steps of gathering for prayer and worship as family. May God grant us His loving protection during this time of healing and transition.