

## Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Coronavirus Weekly Update as of May 26, 2020 at 10:00 am

Dear Parishioners & Friends,

Praise the Lord. The county of Santa Barbara and the Archdiocese are now allowing the churches to reopen. The Archdiocese says we can open for Sunday Mass beginning the weekend of June 7<sup>th</sup>. It is extremely important that we open the church in a very safe manner. The reality is that Church will not be like it was before the virus. I have met with the Pastoral Council and the parish staff, and we are working out how we can celebrate the liturgy in our church given the many safety restrictions the County is asking for. It is recommended that those who are more vulnerable to the virus, those 65 and older or who have compromised immune system, should still not attend Mass at this time. They should continue to watch our livestream of the Mass. The Archbishop has indefinitely dispensed the Sunday Obligation of attending Mass.

In planning for attendance at a Mass inside our church, we will be allowed to have 25% of the church's capacity to allow for social distancing. Therefore, for the first few weekends, we may require an advanced reservation to attend Mass. We are still working out the details and I will send out more information next week.

For Confession, we are not starting up with the regularly scheduled Saturday time. However, please call the office or send me an email and we can schedule a time for me to hear your confession outside. We both will be required to wear a mask.

Here are some activities that you should know about. Bishop Barron will preside at two outdoor prayer services on Pentecost Sunday:

10:30 am at St. Louis de Monfort, Santa Maria  
2 pm at St. Joseph's Church, Carpinteria

It will be a brief car service (approximately 30 minutes), consisting of an opening prayer, a reading, the Gospel, homily, followed by 15 minutes of Eucharistic Adoration and close with Benediction. Please note that while this is an outdoor event, everyone will be asked to remain in their cars to ensure safe distancing.

And mark your calendar for an evening of fun at our Parish Zoom Bingo Night, next Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. See the website for all the details.

God bless, Fr. Lawrence Seyer

### **Livestreaming Sunday Mass at 10:00 am**

You can view from our website at [www.mtcarmelsb.com](http://www.mtcarmelsb.com) or you can go to our Facebook page at @mountcarmelsb.

**Regular Mass:** Hopefully a limited Sunday Mass, open to the congregation by reservation, may begin Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. Details pending.

**Confession:** Call the office to set up an appointment

**Parish Office:** Closed, but we are still taking phone calls, answering emails, and accepting regular mail.

**Flocknotes:** To get up-to-date information from the Parish, please register for our communication program managed by Flocknotes.

1. Go to "flocknote.com"
2. Click on "Find Your Church"
3. Type Zip Code — 93108
4. Select "Our Lady of Mount Carmel"
5. Fill in your information
6. Click on "Sign me up"

**Weekly Giving:** In this special time of crisis for our country, it is important that the parish continue to bring God's word of love and hope to our community. Please help us by continuing your weekly sacrificial giving. Please mail your weekly check to the office, drop it off by sliding it under the front door, or sign up for our electronic giving by going to the DONATE tab on our website.