

## PARISH WEEKLY UPDATE

Dear Parishioners,

We hope you are all doing well! We first want to say ‘Thank You’ for your dedication to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel. This past year has shown how strong, resilient, and faithful our parish community is. It is great that better days have come our way in the fight against the pandemic and we look forward to continued movement in a positive direction.

We are happy to share that we received a letter and updated Liturgical guidelines from Archbishop Gomez. In his letter he shares,

*“The coronavirus pandemic has affected our world and society in ways we could have never imagined. We remain strong in our faith that God will always be by our side.*

*And so, on June 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, I encourage the Catholic faithful of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles to return to in-person Sunday Mass and the celebration of the Sacraments, especially those who are in good health.*

*Effective June 19, 2021, the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation in response to the coronavirus pandemic will be lifted for the Catholic faithful of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.”*

(Excerpt from Archbishop Gomez’s letter dtd. June 12, 2021)

*‘All liturgical celebrations (e.g., Weekday Masses, Sunday Masses, First Communions, Confirmation, Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals, Quinceañeras) and other religious services (e.g., Private Prayer, Adoration, Devotions, Prayer Services) are allowed to take place indoors without capacity limitations, social distancing, and/or prearranged “reservation” systems.*

*Masks are not required for fully vaccinated individuals outdoors or indoors for religious services.*

*Masks are required for unvaccinated individuals outdoors when social distancing is not possible, and at all times indoors.*

(From Guidelines on Liturgical Celebrations and Services, eff. 6/15/21)

As we move forward in the re-opening of our parish community, we want everyone to feel welcome. Father Lawrence plans to meet with the Parish Council when he returns from his vacation on Friday to discuss the parish’s plan. The church is now open daily for private prayer. For this coming weekend, we will still have Confessions outside. We will have with our 10 am Mass on the Grass. The 8am and 4:30 pm Masses will be celebrated inside the church. Reservations will no longer be required for the 8am Mass. Thank you Ana!! For those who would be more comfortable with continued social distance seating, there will be some designated pews available. If anyone has any suggestions, questions, or concerns, please feel free to contact Father Lawrence directly.

We praise God for the graces he continues to give us in our re-opening.

May Our Lady of Mt. Carmel be with you always. May she be the star that guides you and never disappears from your horizon. May she lead you now, throughout your life, and at its completion to safe haven.

Take care and wishing all the fathers a very Happy Father’s Day. God bless!

The Staff of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

6.18.2021