



## Frequently Asked Questions

*Timeline and Procedures for Resumption of Public Mass in Oklahoma*  
May 6, 2020

**Question:** When will public Mass resume in Oklahoma?

**Answer:** Public Mass will resume in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City and the Diocese of Tulsa and Eastern Oklahoma the week of May 18. Sunday Mass will resume May 23-24.

**Question:** If someone in my family is concerned about attending Mass, can they stay home?

**Answer:** The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended for all Catholics of both dioceses.

**Question:** How will parishioners receive Communion?

**Answer:** Bishops strongly recommend receiving Communion in the hand during these temporary precautions out of charity for fellow parishioners.

**Question:** Where can I find a list of Masses being celebrated in the dioceses?

**Answer:** Public Mass times and a schedule for live-streamed Masses are available on parish websites and parish Facebook pages.

**Question:** Other religious groups have started public services. Why do we have to wait to celebrate Mass?

**Answer:** In the Catholic Church, reception of the Holy Eucharist requires close contact with the priest and, potentially, other faithful. Every church in the dioceses is different in terms of how many faithful can worship at one Mass, and other precautions must be taken. The plans to reinstate public Mass must consider established guidelines for proper social contact in a variety of circumstances.

**Question:** Social distancing guidelines say that we must stay six feet away from others. How is that going to work at my church?

**Answer:** Every church is different. Temporarily, there will be a limit to how many people can attend Mass during scheduled times. With general guidelines in place, each priest and parish community will determine what works best for them.

**Question:** My child is a server at Mass. Will he/she be asked to serve when public Mass resumes?

**Answer:** Servers participation in Mass will be limited and determined by priests and church staff.

**Question:** Will I have to wear a mask during Mass?

**Answer:** Priests, deacons and Eucharistic ministers have been asked to wear a mask during the distribution of communion. Wearing a mask is recommended for parishioners, but not required.

**Question:** My parish has several Masses on Sunday. Will the church be disinfected after each Mass?

**Answer:** Staff and volunteers have been asked to disinfect the pews, door handles, etc., as best they can. Parishioners are welcome to bring wipes.

**Question:** I want to support my parish during these difficult times. What should I do?

**Answer:** Many churches have online giving options. Parishioners also can mail checks to the church. Check with priests and parishes on giving at Mass.

**Question:** Are these rules and precautions temporary?

**Answer:** Yes. The goal of the precautions is to slow the spread of COVID-19. The changing conditions are being monitored by diocesan officials and will be adjusted as needed.

**Question:** How many people will be allowed to attend each Mass?

**Answer:** Given the need for maintaining social distance, parishes will limit attendance to no more than 33 percent occupancy.