

St. Rita Bulletin

SPECIAL EDITION

Sunday June 27, 2021 · READ ALL ABOUT IT!
NEW POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

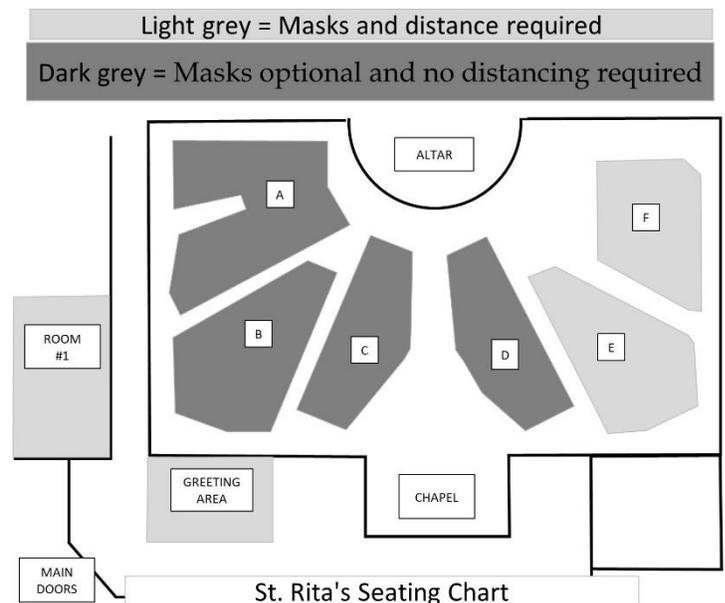
MASS SCHEDULE: 5PM SATURDAYS, 8:00AM + 10:30AM SUNDAYS

We will be continuing our current Mass schedule of 5:00 PM on Saturday evenings and 8:00 am and 10:30 am on Sundays. While we know that this is a change from Mass times in the past, we only have Fr. Tim to preside at Masses and we have a limited number of liturgical ministers. Our overall attendance on a weekend does not require more than three weekend Masses. We appreciate your flexibility in making an adjustment to this schedule and look forward to the return of all our parish family.

SEATING: OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR ALL COMFORT LEVELS AT ALL MASSES

St. Rita now has numerous options to meet the many needs of our parishioners. For the sake of continuity and meeting these needs, all three Masses will provide the same seating options.

- Masks and distance required: There are many reasons that parishioners may need to continue to wear masks at Mass as well as maintain physical distancing. For these parishioners, at all three weekend Masses, there will be seating in the two sections of pews to the far right as you enter the main body of the Church as well as in the greeting area. If you are not comfortable in the church, we invite you to use Room 1. See the light grey sections in the diagram to the right.
- Masks optional and no distancing required. Those who are fully vaccinated and comfortable with not maintaining physical distancing will be able to sit in the remaining sections of pews. See the dark grey sections to the right.



SINGING: LET US RISE AND SING!

One of the most exciting announcements is that we can once again raise our voices in song as we praise our God together! Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord! Whether you consider your voice to be joyful or to be noise, it is time for us all to sing once again! Our choirs will soon be back as well! We are working on a plan to return to using hymnals. Until then, the words to the songs and Mass parts will be displayed on our TV screens.

SANITIZING and CLEANING

While we will continue to keep our Church clean and neat, we will be discontinuing our disinfecting of the pews after every Mass. We will continue to provide hand sanitizer at multiple locations around the Church.

HOLY COMMUNION

Clear directions will be given during Mass so that everyone is comfortable with the procedure.

- Main body of the Church: Please come forward for Holy Communion. Those who wish to maintain physical distancing may do so as they come forward.
- Chapel, the Greeting Area, and Room 1: Holy Communion will be brought to you.
- If you wish to receive a low gluten host: Please approach the Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion who is at the head of Section D (the right-hand side of the center aisle).

THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF CHRIST

We are not yet able to share the Chalices at Mass. Please remember that when we receive the Sacred Host, that we are receiving the entirety of Jesus' Real Presence: his Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

- Hospitality Ministers: One of the new ministries to come out of our Pandemic Experience is the ministry of Hospitality. These wonderful parishioners have been ever present to help us all understand the policies each of the many times they have changed over the last year and a half. This ministry has become a permanent part of St. Rita's and they will continue their kind service as we move forward. One of the new ways in which they will provide hospitality is to usher individuals to their appropriate seats. This will be especially important for parishioners as they return to Mass and be a welcoming presence for our visitors.
- Altar Servers: Currently Altar Servers lead our processions with the Cross and ring the bells during Mass. In the fall we will invite new servers to be trained and expand their role.
- Deacons: Our deacons will be taking up their traditional roles of Ministry of Proclamation, Preaching, and assisting at the Altar. We no longer will be maintaining physical distancing in the Sanctuary.

COLLECTIONS

We learned that we do not need to take up a collection during Mass. We will continue to receive your kind and generous weekly donations in any of the several ways that are open to you. Donations may be dropped off in the wall slot on the left just before the clear glass doors to the Narthex. Electronic donations are very helpful and provide an easy, no-stress way to make your gifts. Donations can also be mailed in. **Thank you again for your very generous and loyal support of St. Rita.**

HOLY WATER

Our Holy Water fonts will remain empty for now. As we begin to schedule more than one family at a time for Baptisms (only if families are comfortable with celebrating their child's baptism with another family), fresh Holy Water will be used for each baptism.

OUR PRIORITY

We continue to strive to meet our priorities of both encouraging and welcoming the faithful to regular attendance at Holy Mass each week and frequent participation in the Sacramental life of the Church. We will continue to work hard to do this as safely and reasonably as possible.