

ST. APOLLINARIS CATHOLIC CHURCH
3700 LASSEN STREET
NAPA, CALIFORNIA 94558

September 2020

Dear St. Apollinaris Parishioners,

At this time of the year I am very aware that this is when things traditionally begin to “ramp up” in our parish. Of course, that looks very different in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, but I would like to share with you what is happening and how things will be changing in the near future.

Given the recent lifting of some of the restrictions on worship in Napa County, Masses will be celebrated inside the church starting on Wednesday, September 9th. Daily mass will continue to be at 9:00 am Monday thru Friday. For now, we will keep the Sunday mass schedule at 9:00 am, 10:30 am and Noon. However, we will, once again, be limited to no more than 100 people inside the church for Mass. Masks and social distancing will still be required, as well as frequent sanitizing and the gathering of contact tracing information for everyone who attends. It is our hope that we will be able to add a 7:30 am Sunday Mass toward the end of September, depending on how the transition to indoor Masses progresses. Because we don't have the ability to live-stream a Mass with a congregation in the church, the 4:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass will continue to be a “live-stream only” Mass for those who cannot come to church for health reasons.

Also, many of our parish religious education programs are beginning to get up and running again through distance learning. I wish to extend a very special word of thanks to Fatima Jimenez and Ashley Huss and our parish catechists for the work they have done and continue to do to make sure that these programs, especially First Communion and Confirmation preparation, can continue in a way that fits with our current circumstances and keeps everyone safe and healthy.

Finally, I want to again extend another word of deep thanks to all of you who have continued to send in your weekly contributions, and to those who have made special donations to help the parish in these difficult times. Even if we cannot provide all the parish services that we would like, there are still significant costs to keep the parish running, so every contribution helps in that regard. Contributions may be made by mail, by dropping off at the parish office or, as many of you have started doing since March, through online contributions via our website at www.stapollinarisparish.org.

May God bless you and those you love, and let us continue praying that the time will soon come when we can all worship together again without anxiety in the Lord's House here at St. Apollinaris Parish.

Sincerely,

Father Fergal McGuinness