

St Raymond De Penafort

"Welcome. Love. Serve."

301 S. I-Oka Avenue
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056
(847) 253-8600
www.st-raymond.org

Full Reopening of Masses this Weekend!

June 10, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Raymond,

The leadership team and staff joyously announce that, in accordance with the state and the City of Chicago moving to Phase 5 on Friday, June 11, 2021, we are preparing to fully reopen Masses starting the weekend of June 12-13!

What does Phase 5 mean for the Church?

- **Mass registration is no longer required and capacity limits will be lifted;** we may resume to 100% capacity.
- **Those who are fully vaccinated do not need to wear masks.** Masks are recommended by public health authorities for those unvaccinated, especially when indoors, for their safety and the safety of others.
- **Social distancing is no longer required;** you may sit where you are most comfortable for Mass. A section of the church seating will remain designated for those still social distancing.
- **Singing may fully resume!** We are excited to hear you lift your voice in praise to God during Mass.

Based on the Archdiocese of Chicago COVID Task Force you can also expect the following for Masses:

- Proof of vaccination is not required for attendance at any liturgies or services.
- All entrances and exits to the church will be open.
- Hand sanitizer will continue to be available.
- Hymnals will return to the pews.
- Sign of Peace may be exchanged in the way you are most comfortable.
- Distribution of the chalice remains suspended at this time.
- Liturgical and music ministries will resume as we are able to reorganize the teams.

For the immediate future we will continue to offer the current weekend Mass schedule:

Saturday at 5:00 p.m.

(with livestream and outdoor communion after Mass)

Sunday at 8:30 a.m.

Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

(with livestream and outdoor communion after Mass)

Additionally, beginning July 5, 2021 we will offer the following weekday Mass schedule:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday and Thursday at noon

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Whether you have been coming to Mass for months or returning to in-person for the first time, we want everyone to feel comfortable and safe worshipping in church. To ensure that, please know you are welcome to continue wearing a mask and/or be seated in the designated social distancing section that will be available. Also, you might wish to consider attending a less crowded Mass like 8:30 a.m. on Sunday or any weekday Mass.

After a full year of registrations, social distancing, masks, and limited capacity, this weekend we prepare to fully welcome everyone into St. Raymond church the way we did before the pandemic. **So, invite your fellow parishioners and friends to come to Mass!** Let us fill our church with prayer, joy, and community that embody St. Raymond Parish.

A special thank you to all those who have volunteered throughout the pandemic to ensure our masses, sacraments, funerals, ministries and school could all continue this year. I am grateful for the many individuals who found unique and modified ways to serve those in our community while staying within the changing protocols throughout this past year. Your dedication and perseverance outwardly shows your love of Jesus Christ and we are blessed to have you a part of St. Raymond Parish.

Let us continue to keep those who lost loved ones during the pandemic in our hearts and minds. My prayers continue to be with each of you, as together we navigate the "return to normal".

Peace be with you,



Fr. Scott Hebden, Pastor