

Re-opening the Parish

*Though I remain somewhat skeptical that we are prepared to implement fully all of the **Phase V guidelines** (in that only 41% of the total Illinois population is fully vaccinated, as well as having many immune-compromised and otherwise still vulnerable to COVID-19 worshipers, and of course, our children who are yet to be vaccinated), we can certainly move forward. —Rev. John McGivern, SCSL Administrator*

Beginning immediately

- **Registration is no longer required.**
- **There are no capacity restrictions.**
- **There is no longer any need to do screening for COVID.**
- **Masks will be strongly encouraged for individuals to continue to wear.**
 - ⇒ We will have masks and hand sanitizer bottles available at the church entrances.
 - ⇒ We will have signs that will state something like “For the safety of everyone, masks are strongly encouraged to be worn while inside church”.
 - ⇒ Greeters will NOT sanitize hands upon entering church and before Communion, but we will have containers for self-sanitizing at the Communion station, as well as at church entrances.
 - ⇒ In time, there will be changes to the pew arrangements, continuing to offer and encourage a small amount of social distancing.
- **Pews might be re-numbered 1 – 2, or every other pew might be roped off.**
- **Sanitizing church after every function is no longer necessary.**
- **Austin Blvd. and Washington Blvd. entrances may be used for entering and exiting.**
- **At this time, the receptacle for the collection of donations will remain at the front of the pews.**
- **Congregational singing may return though this will inevitably conflict with mask wearing. (We will use hymnals again, and Worship Aids will no longer be printed)**
- **For the time being, we will continue to have the gifts of bread and wine already at the altar and not brought forward by others in the assembly.**
- **For Communion, 2 lines may process forward. There will continue to be no distribution of the consecrated wine.**