



# Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa Pro Cathedral

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Brothers and Sisters, Parishioners of Old Mission San Luis Obispo,

Greetings and abundant blessings upon you and your families! Two months have passed since my last letter to you and so here is a parish life update...

We have been back inside the church for in-person Masses for the past several weeks. While we continue to have limitations on numbers of people allowed (currently 100), we are hopeful that in the next week or two we will be able to host “over-flow” in our Parish Hall where we will live-stream the Mass and an extra-ordinary Eucharistic Minister will distribute Holy Communion. This will assist us in accommodating several more people, especially as the weather begins to change.

We continue to take registrations for Religious Education (including preparation for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion) and for High School Confirmation preparation. Both of these processes will begin in January. However, that we may be sure to have sufficient materials for every participant, we strongly urge you to register soon. Although Religious Education and Confirmation preparation will look a little different this year, we are very hopeful that they will provide for the needs of our young people today.

April and the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) team have been working with our catechumens and candidates for the celebration of Easter Sacraments throughout this past month. Faced with the challenges presented in the midst of life with COVID, they are doing their best to guide, to teach, and to reflect with those interested in becoming Catholic. Please keep them all in your daily prayers that their hearts be open and willing to respond to Christ’s invitation.

On October 19th the parish staff began moving back into the newly remodeled Parish Office. As you recall, through the very generous gift of Bea Jeong we have been able to do some much needed work on the Parish Rectory and the Parish Office. While most of the Parish Office work focused on the infrastructures of HVAC, plumbing, and electrical, we were also able to do some much needed cosmetic work as well: painting, flooring, doors, bathrooms, and lighting. Maino Construction and their sub-contractors have been hard at work to get us back into the office as quickly as possible. They have done a beautiful job. We are anxious for you to be able to see it! Although we still have several boxes to unpack, we the staff are grateful for the beautiful work environment.

Many celebrations are on the horizon:

- 1) All Souls Day: throughout the month of November we will once again display a banner in the church listing the members of our parish family who have died in the past year;
- 2) Thanksgiving Day Mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m.  
- this will be the only Mass of the day;
- 3) Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration will look very different this year due to our current limitations: the Novena will be prayed much like years past, but will also include December 11 (there will be no 11:00 p.m. Mass with Mañanitas following), Mass on December 12 will take place in our parish parking lot about 7:00 p.m. (there will be no procession or dinner/fiesta following);
- 4) Christmas Mass schedule has not yet been determined, but will likely be similar to past years...only complicated by the limitation of the number of people we can allow into a particular space. We will do our best to accommodate as many as possible.

Finally, although our offices are still to remain closed, we are doing our best to respond to phone calls and other requests...we thank you for your patience.

Personally, I want to thank you for wearing your masks and respecting the many other restrictions that we have, for your care for one another, and your willingness to adapt to the on-going changes we are asked to implement. While I have been imperfect in so many things, I want you to know that I am trying to do my best to keep us all safe during challenging times.

Fr. Kelly Vandehey  
Pastor