

Dear St Paul of the Cross Parishioners,

As you have heard, we are planning on reopening our church slowly. However, the archdiocese has given us precise instructions as to what tasks must be completed and what personnel should be in place before we open. To that end, we need several volunteers to make this happen. That is why I am reaching out to you. We need three teams:

Set-up team: Volunteers will ensure that all supplies needed for each sacramental celebration/gathering are ready for use, entrances and exits are marked and physically propped open prior to attendees' arrival/departure, windows are opened, restrooms are stocked and managed, etc. They will ensure hand sanitizer is available and that pews are marked off according to social distancing guidelines.

Greeting team: Greeters will assist in managing the flow of congregants as they enter the church, participate in the liturgy/sacrament, and exit the church. Team members will combine some of the functions of an usher, such as directing participants to appropriate seating/waiting areas, but will include additional responsibilities, including, but not limited to, making sure attendees use hand sanitizer upon entering, are wearing a mask, and are reminded not to enter if ill. Given the circumstances, greeters will need to be tactful and firm paying careful attention to all people on-site. To support parish greeter teams, rudimentary training tips on handling difficult situations will be provided.

Disinfecting team: These volunteers will help maintain and sanitize essential and trafficked areas of the church before and after the church has been used. Masks and gloves will be provided, if necessary, in addition to approved cleaning/disinfecting supplies.

Any captain or volunteer must not be part of a "vulnerable population" (no underlying medical condition such as diabetes; lung disease; undergoing cancer treatment, etc.). For greeter teams, those aged 18 years and above are welcome. High School students who wish to volunteer may do so for set-up teams or cleaning teams, provided they have permission from their parent or guardian. All volunteers must realize that there is always a certain amount of risk involved and that it is their decision to step up.

Please note that ***unless we have a sufficient number of volunteers who are properly trained, we cannot reopen our church.*** Therefore, this call for volunteers is urgent. The more volunteers we have, the less the burden that will be placed on each one. If you would like to volunteer, please fill out this form.

Thank you and God bless you!

Fr Britto