

May 27, 2020

It has been a long wait and we are days away from reopening St. Michael's to celebrate Mass and receiving Communion. Can I get an "AMEN!!!"

With that said we would like to feel we are coming back home and everything is where it was when we last gathered. However, that is not the case and we all know why. We have seen the blue tape markings on the floor indicating 6' social distancing and the signs to go up one aisle and down another. Therefore, we are all familiar with following directions, which is a good thing, and it makes it easier for everyone to adhere to the new protocol and guidelines that are in place at St. Michael's.

To make you comfortable and knowledgeable here is what you should know and can expect:

- There is always an inherent risk with any public event and that no one can be guaranteed absolute safety
- Bring your own water bottles, water fountains are closed
- Wear a mask and bring your own hand sanitizer
- 6 Feet Social Distancing will be maintained as best possible
- Do not hug, shake hands, knuckles, fist bump or any physical encounters with others
- Ushers and Greeters will be at the door to ask how many are in your party. They will direct you to the next Usher who will assist in helping you find a seat.
 - One, Two or Three in a party will be seated in the front part of the Parish Center
 - Four or more will be asked to go to the back area
 - Those in wheelchairs and those who sit in their walkers will be in the front row as you enter. Family members accompanying them will sit in the seat behind them.
 - Those with walkers who will sit in the chairs may have their walkers in front of them in the row they are sitting in.
 - Baby Strollers or other items (knee scooters, etc.), Ushers will show you where they can be left during mass.
 - DO NOT UNHOOK, MOVE, OR TAKE AWAY chairs from where they are placed.
 - DO NOT SIT IN THE CHAIRS WITH BLUE TAPE
 - Every effort has been made to stay within the 6 Feet Social Distancing
 - Allow the Ushers to follow protocol and let them direct you to your seat(s).
- There will be **NO**:
 - Missalettes, follow along with the screen
 - Singing at any of the masses
 - Standing if seats are not available
 - If there are no seats available, we ask you to, please, consider coming to another mass time.
 - There are no standing areas available – keep in mind 6 Feet social distancing
- Communion
 - Distribution of Communion will be after mass.
 - EM's will be at four (4) locations within the Parish Center.
 - Ushers will assist in having everyone follow the arrows to the EM location from your seat keeping in mind 6 feet distance from each other.
 - When you come up to receive Communion, remove your mask if you are wearing one.

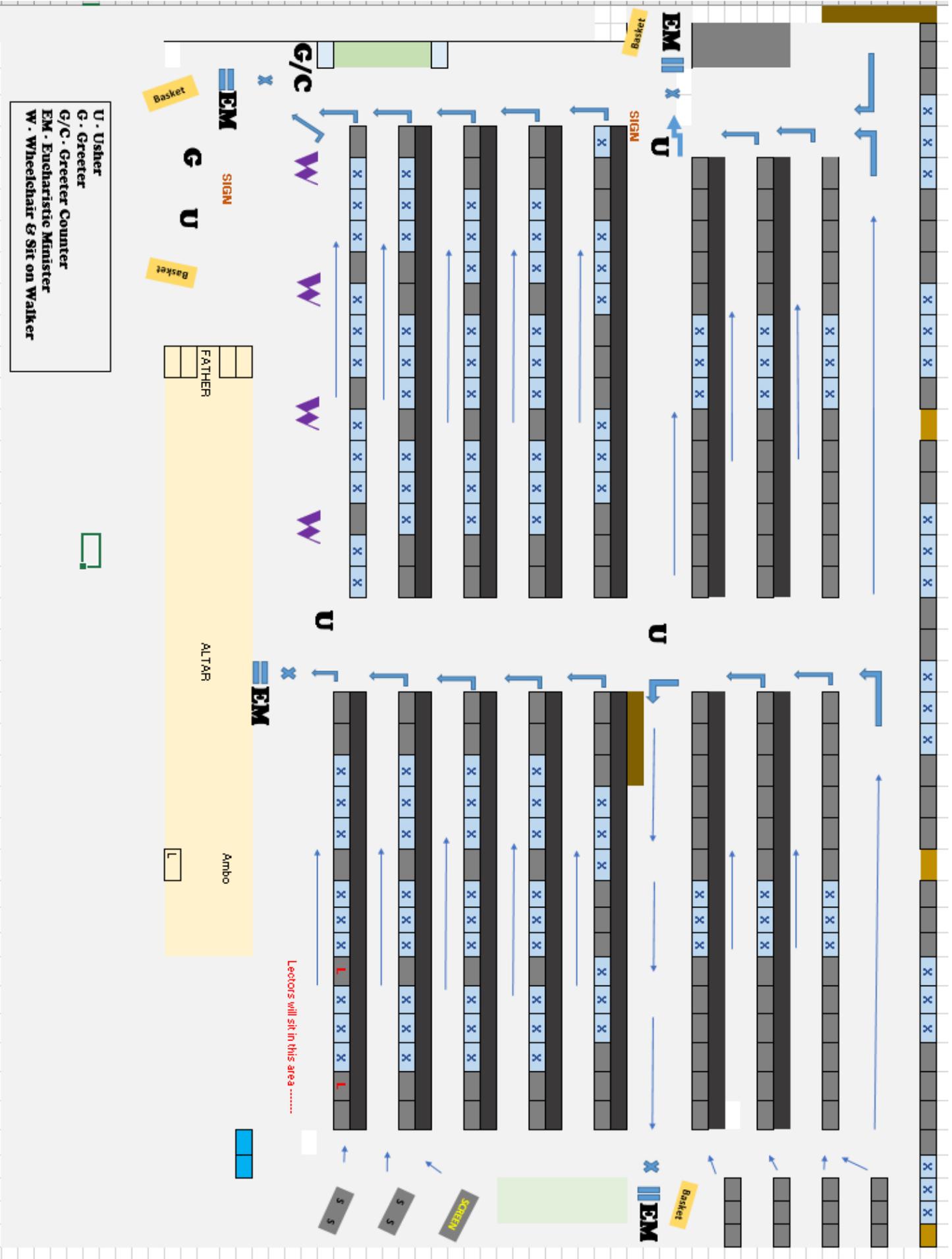
- Communion will only be given in your hand and **MUST BE CONSUMED** before walking away from the EM. The proper way to receive in the hand is palms up, right hand under left hand. Remember to respond “AMEN”.
- After receiving communion you can drop off your Offertory in the basket, pick up a bulletin and a Food Drive bag as you exit the Parish Center.
- During Communion please be quiet and respectful that we are still in church
- If you are not going to Communion, please wait your turn to enter the aisle and step aside and follow the arrow to the exit from your seating area.
- There is to be **NO CONGREGATING IN THE PARISH CENTER** – Before and After Mass.
- Confession will be a half hour before Mass.
 - Please wait your turn at the chair outside the confessional
 - Do not gather and stand to wait, stay at your seat until the person on the chair enters the confessional.
 - You can kneel or stand for confession
 - Do not cross over the blue line – we want to keep Father safe.
- The Restrooms have areas taped off to comply with the 6 feet social distancing.
- Volunteers need to clean before the next mass
 - Please exit after communion so they may begin
- The Rosary will be prayed a half hour before mass starts.

This is a Parish effort. We have all waited too long to be able to come to church. Your cooperation is the only way we can continue to move forward with having mass and communion each weekend. Be mindful of others, use common sense, and be considerate of why we are having to follow these directions. Please be patient with our helpers and volunteers, they too are doing their best to make it safe and comfortable for you to attend mass. This is temporary and changes will occur as the wrinkles are ironed out. Father Branson and his staff along with our volunteers are doing all they can to make this happen. We are grateful for everyone’s help appreciate your efforts. Thank you!

We are in desperate need of volunteers to help clean after the Sunday 8:00 am mass. If you would like to help please reply at the bottom of this email. Signup sheets, for future masses, to help volunteer to clean after all masses will be on the Greeters Table. We need the help. Thank you!

If you have questions or concerns, please, reply below or email Reajean at ccd@stmichaels77.org.

God bless us all!



U - Usher
 G/C - Greeter Counter
 EM - Eucharistic Minister
 W - Wheelchair & Sit on Walker

Lectors will sit in this area