

July 9, 2020



# St. Walter Parish Newsletter

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## ALL ARE WELCOME

Dear Parishioners of St. Walter-

“All Are Welcome” was our very appropriate entrance hymn as we welcomed back over forty parishioners for our first public Mass since the middle of March. Everyone was so happy they came. They missed being in church for so long. They enjoyed seeing everyone who came – even with their masks on! Congratulations to all who came and to our parish volunteer team who worked so hard to bring us to this day so we can re-open our parish for Sunday Mass.

We will continue for the time being having one Mass at 9:30am on Sunday. Timewise it is a good compromise between our normally scheduled 8:30am and 10:30am Masses. As we grow in the number of parishioners coming to Mass and gaining more parish volunteers to help re-open our parish, we would like to bring back our 4:00pm Mass on Saturday in the near future. In that way, we will have one weekend Mass each on a Saturday and Sunday. Fr. Joe Stobba, who has helped us out on Saturdays with confessions and Mass, is more than happy to return to St. Walter and be with us as well. We’ll need additional volunteers to provide Mass on Saturday, so if you’re interested and able, please talk with Fr. Jim.

Please join us for this Sunday’s Mass at 9:30am. Call the rectory at (773) 779-1515 to register for Mass. We follow three important safety guidelines of: sanitizing (as we enter church and before we receive Holy Communion), wearing masks, and social distancing ourselves six feet apart. It would be great to have all of you return but we also understand that some of you are not able, not ready yet, or unsure. That is why we will continue to provide Mass recorded at St. Walter posted on our website and to our Facebook page at 10:30am on Sundays. Beginning on Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, we will livestream the Mass, so you can celebrate Mass with us in real time.

Remember, all are welcome!

*Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Jim*

## **PARISH NEWS**

### **FREE PUBLICATION**

You may have heard Fr. Rocky on Relevant Radio. He has just published a new book called "Mary, at the Crossroads of History." Fr. Rocky is offering the book FREE through Relevant Radio. Here's what he says: "My hope is that your parishioners will have a deeper and more trusting devotion to the Blessed Mother after reading this book, and that they will turn to her more frequently in their hour of need. She always points us towards Jesus." If you would like to receive the book, go to [www.relevantradio.com/chicago](http://www.relevantradio.com/chicago). Limit is 1 per household; only 100,000 free copies available.

### **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED**

The Reopening Co-leadership Team and our Volunteer Captains need additional people to step forward and serve in various capacities so that our community may continue to pray, celebrate and worship together. In order to progress along our parish reopening plan, our Set-up, Greeting and Cleaning Teams need folks who can offer about two hours per service per week. Please prayerfully consider lending your time to this important ministry and contact Fr. Jim to discuss your willingness to help. Our team will ensure that you are properly trained and can serve with your safety as priority #1. We will need additional trained volunteers to be able to provide Saturday Mass.

### **GIVING REMINDER**

Thank you to those who have continued to contribute to our St. Walter parish family. We are grateful to be remembered during this challenging time. It is imperative that all of us support our parish with our prayers and our financial support. We ask that you consider maintaining your regular weekly donation level. Contributions can be dropped off at the rectory or donated online.

If it is more convenient, you can donate online as so many have done. Here at St. Walter, we have two options for online contributions:

1. Using Our Sunday Visitor which can be accessed through our parish website or directly at [www.osvonlinegiving.com/4913](http://www.osvonlinegiving.com/4913)
2. Through the Archdiocese's website [www.archchicago.org/home](http://www.archchicago.org/home) and click on the red DONATE button at the top of the home page. Once you reach the Giving section of their website, "Universal Offertory Program" is the first choice

If you would prefer to set up direct debit from your bank account, please speak with Diane Mulcrone in the rectory. She would be happy to assist you with this process.

**PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE**

The July/August issue of the “Word Among Us” and current issues of the “Chicago Catholic” are available at the Rectory. The current issue of the “Word Among Us” is a double issue so the suggested donation is \$4.00. Please call the rectory at (773) 779-1515 to make pick-up arrangements.

**POPE FRANCIS’ INTENTION FOR THE MONTH OF JULY**

We close this week’s Newsletter with Pope Francis’ monthly intention:

Our families.

That today’s families may be accompanied with love, respect and guidance.