

September 9, 2020

Dear Parishioners of St. Theresa Parish:

We just learned that 2 of our parishioners tested positive for COVID-19. They were last at Mass on Saturday, September 5th, 2020 at the Hispanic First Communion Mass at 1PM. Public Health in King County has been informed and at this time, we have determined that there were no “close contacts” with any of these particular individuals. By definition, close contact is 10 consecutive minutes of face-to-face conversation without a mask
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/appendix.html#contact>.

Although there was no “close contact,” out of an abundance of caution, we wanted to alert you so that you can monitor for symptoms. Public Health does not advise that people get tested, unless you feel symptoms or have had known close contact with someone who tested positive. As a reminder, the symptoms to watch out for include:

- A temperature of at least 100.0°F
- Increased shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- A new cough
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

If you experience any of these symptoms, please do not come to church or to Mass. Please follow-up with your primary care physician.

I want to thank you for following our safety protocols while at a Mass. Because we are wearing masks and staying physically distanced, Public Health believes we have virtually eliminated this possibility of “close contact.” **This is a good reminder of why following our mask requirements and keeping physically distant during Mass is so important!**

At this time, I ask that you please keep these parishioners in your prayers, as well as all people on the front lines caring for the sick and their families. We are so grateful for their selfless service to our communities.

Blessings during these trying times,

Linda M. DeMarce
Pastoral Coordinator