



Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Parish, Rosemeadow

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29 December 2021

My Dear Parishioners,

I pray that you all had a blessed and happy Christmas celebration of Our Lord's birth.

As you are aware, and as I informed you last week in my email, some restrictions have been re-introduced regarding Covid requirements. These are minimal and do not impact in any significant way on our gathering and worship at Rosemeadow. We have become used to wearing a face mask indoors now and while attendees are limited to 1 person per 2 square meters, we can still have up to 400 people in our church. This means that for all practical purposes –except for special occasions– there will be no restriction on the number of people able to attend Mass.

Therefore, after considerable consultation and discussion, I have decided to discontinue the pre-registration for Mass attendance via Eventbrite from **SATURDAY 1ST JANUARY 2022**. Among the reasons for this include:

- It is now virtually universal that QR check-in is required and used by everyone in all other settings and venues without difficulty including shopping centers, hospitality, entertainment, etc.
- The use of lists of names is cumbersome and time consuming; as well as a strain on the monitors who have been doing this now for nearly two years and in a voluntary capacity- for which I deeply thank them.
- The use of QR check-in means you are not tied to attending a particular Mass because you have registered to attend it, but can decide which Mass you want to attend each weekend.
- My secretary and office manager, Mrs. Wolczak will be on Annual Leave during January, and I do not have the time or ability to pre-register those who continue to call the Office to do so. Also, **and of particular importance**, is the fact that if notifications need to be sent to attendees, as occurred before Christmas in several of our Parishes, then those who have checked in using the Parish QR code are automatically notified by the State Health Department. For those who have not, it required the Parishes concerned to manually go through their records and notify each individually. If such an incident occurs while Mrs. Wolczak is on leave, I would be unable to do that. Therefore, this alone, requires that everyone use the QR check-in before entering the church.

While an iPad will be available for Monitors to check-in people for emergencies only, please note that this is not available for general use, but will be strictly and tightly limited only for those very few who absolutely are unable to use the QR check-in code. If you have a mobile phone –and I have yet to come across anyone, including the elderly, who do not have one today and who, from my observation know how to use them– then you will need to use that to check-in as you will not be able to use the iPad to do so. The Check-in App can easily be downloaded for immediate use; if you have not done so, please do so now or ask a family member or friend to assist you.

Thank you for your co-operation, and please understand that I have not taken this decision lightly, but because necessity now demands it from me given my limited time and ability in the current situation. As a matter of interest and information, most other Parishes have already moved to QR check-in only, and it is working satisfactorily without any problems.

For those who have already registered on Eventbrite for Masses in January, an email will be sent to you notifying you that you will be required to use the Parish QR code to check-in when you arrive. All Masses will be removed from the site this week.

FROM SATURDAY 1ST JANUARY 2022 ALL ENTRY TO CHURCH WILL BE BY QR CHECK-IN ONLY

I take this opportunity of wishing you every blessing and happiness for the New Year, praying that Our Lady Help of Christians protect you, and the Blessings of Christ upon you all.

God bless you all

Father Christopher G Sarkis

Parish Priest.