April 6, 2021

Dear Parishioners,

We just learned a person from our parish tested positive for COVID-19. They were last at Mass on Sunday, March 28th at the 10:30AM Mass, and tested positive four days later. King County Public Health has been informed and at this time, we have determined that there were no "close contacts" with this person. By definition, close contact is when **someone was within 6 feet of an infected person for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period**.

Although there was no "close contact" which requires notification and tracing, 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 100.4°F
- Increased shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- A new cough
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, vomiting, runny nose/congestion or fatigue

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 all of those who are sick with COVID-19 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.

If you or someone you know is eligible needs help scheduling a vaccine appointment, we can assist them in doing so at the West Seattle vaccine clinic.

May you have a blessed Easter.

In Christ,
Fr. Matthew Oakland