

Dear Friends,

**Thank you for your participation in the Daily Mass Schedule Survey—we had over 150 responses!** The survey results were reviewed by members of the parish staff, as well as the Parish Family Advisory Council. I appreciate the thoughtful comments that were submitted. Within the responses, there was a wide variety of opinions and desires expressed, but there was not any consensus that this was the time to make any particular changes.

**Generally, the survey responses and the Mass attendance numbers indicate that the current schedule has been received well, and is working well in comparison to the previous schedule. Therefore, we will continue with the Daily Mass Schedule as it has been this summer.**

Please continue reading for additional information about the survey responses and the discernment that has gone into this decision. Furthermore, there is a separate Q&A page that has been created with common questions and answers related to the schedule and survey.

In creating this Daily Mass Schedule, the following principles were used as a guide:

- Avoid having two Masses occurring at the same time.
- Have more consistent times for Masses.
- Provide additional opportunities for evening Masses.
- Offer a Mass in Spanish.
- Have a schedule that one priest could cover by himself, when the need arises.
- Create space in the schedule around the priests' day of rest.

In the survey responses, I could sense the zeal and love that so many of you have for attending Daily Mass. This is something dear to me, as it was an important part of my life to attend Daily Mass every day when I was a young adult. Back then, I was grateful for the many options that are available throughout Seattle. Depending on my schedule each day, there were seven different churches that I would attend Daily Mass at. Because of how important this was to me then (and is to me now as a presider), I would love to be able to offer Daily Mass at a time that would work for everyone who submitted a comment, if that were possible.

**In the comments about the Mass times**, there were some who thought that 8:45am was too late, some who thought it was too early, and some who thought it was just right. Similarly, there were some who thought 5:30pm was too early, and some who thought a later time would be too late. The 6:30pm Mass that was previously offered on Thursday evenings at St. Luke was typically the lowest-attended Mass, and was at a time that made it difficult to schedule other meetings or events on Thursdays. The move to 5:30pm has shown an increase in attendance, and allows for scheduling parish meetings afterwards. **Ultimately, over 2/3 of surveys responded that both 8:45am and 5:30pm were good times.**

Many specific comments were submitted about the **Tuesday evening Mass at Christ the King**. This Mass has seen a reduction in attendance in comparison to the previous morning Mass. However, this Mass time is based on the principle of spacing out the Daily Mass Schedule for the priests around their day of rest. Therefore, we will continue to offer the evening Mass on

Tuesday, rather than not offer a Mass at all. Additionally, there are Tuesday morning Masses offered in the area (e.g., St. Joseph Carmelite Monastery, St. Matthew, St. Alphonsus, St. Catherine, and Blessed Sacrament).

There were also specific comments submitted about the **Friday noon Mass at St. Luke**. The Christ the King School Mass is on Friday mornings, so we're not going to schedule a morning Mass at the same time at St. Luke. Furthermore, this Mass has had attendance equivalent to other Daily Masses, demonstrating that it works for a good number of parishioners.

**Overall, I've been pleased with the response to the schedule this summer.** I've seen an increase in the number of parishioners willing to attend Daily Mass at the parish other than their primary parish. The **Wednesday evening Mass in Spanish at Christ the King** has quickly become the most-attended Daily Mass in our Parish Family. The **Saturday morning Mass at St. Luke** has shown an increase in attendance. And all other Masses (other than Tuesday), are about the same or showing an increase in attendance. Furthermore, we'll look to add additional days and times for Confessions sometime later this fall.

**Going through this discernment process has been a good exercise of synodality and working through Partners in the Gospel.** Even if the result isn't all that you'd desired, I hope that you're encouraged by this process, and will continue to participate, as we have many more items to discern as we work together to become one new parish. A key aspect of synodality is, after a decision has been made, assessing how that decision is working. We will do that, and will be open to the possibility of future adjustments to our Daily Mass Schedule.

St. Luke, pray for us!  
Yours in Christ the King,  
Fr. Green