



Welcome Back to St. Mary's!

For the safety of all our parishioners and visitors- Please read and observe our Mass Attendance Guidelines

General Guidelines

- Please do not enter the church if you have fever, cough or any other symptoms of an acute respiratory illness.
- Face masks covering nose and mouth must be worn at all times while in our buildings and during Mass.
- We encourage you to bring your own mask and hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer will also be stationed at the entrances to the church. A limited supply of masks will be available if needed.
- When using the parish restrooms, wash hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.
- Please carefully maintain at least a 6 ' distance between individuals at all times. Immediate families or other household members may remain closer as a group but must maintain safe distancing from other individuals or groups.
- Please plan on arriving 15-20 minutes early to Mass to accommodate for possible seating delays and plan for some extra time to exit.
- There will be two entry/exit points into Mass—the main front doors to the church and the back doors by the statue of Mary. All other building doors will be closed and locked.

Entering the Church

- Please use hand sanitizer before entering the building.
- Please await direction from our ushers in order to *enter and leave* the sanctuary. You will be guided to your seat.
- Please do not congregate in the foyer.

During Mass

- Singing by the congregation has been temporarily suspended in order to minimize aerosol and droplet exposure. Singing by the cantor will continue, but choirs are temporarily suspended. Hymnals have been removed in order to avoid unnecessary touch exposure.
- Responses to prayers during Mass should be as quiet as possible for the same purpose of limiting aerosol and droplet exposure.
- The offertory procession has been temporarily suspended.
- Sign of Peace– a simple wave or nod of the head is appropriate at this time. Please avoid touching others and do not shake hands.
- Collection Basket– will not be passed between pews. There will be a receptacle at the back of the church for envelopes and tithing to use at entry or exit from Church.

Communion

- Please use hand sanitizer before and after Communion.
- Await direction from the ushers before proceeding into line for communion. Please follow the designated pathways when returning to your seat.
- Please keep your face covering in place when approaching and while receiving Communion. After you have received the host in your hand, please step to the side, pull down your face covering, consume the host, then immediately pull up the face mask I back into position prior to heading back to your seat.
- Communion will be distributed in the hand only in keeping with current Diocesan guidelines. Distribution of the precious blood is temporarily suspended.

Exiting the Church

- Await direction from ushers to leave pews and exit sanctuary.
- Please do not congregate in the foyer.

Please know that the parish facilities staff has taken great care to minimize viral exposure by conducting frequent and thorough disinfection procedures in accordance with established CDC guidelines.

We respectfully request the cooperation of every parishioner in carefully observing these guidelines to maintain an environment which is as safe as possible. Special attention has been made that these guidelines adhere to social distancing protocols required by the New York State Department of Health.

We gratefully appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we gather as a parish family and move toward a brighter future for our beloved community!

May the Holy Spirit guide us as we continue our mission to be God's heart of mercy and love, God's voice of hope and truth and God's hands of justice and healing to all people.

May God Bless you and keep you safe!