

FAQ

1. ADORATION CHAPEL

Unfortunately, we have chosen not to unlock our chapel. Please understand that it is a small space and viruses could be more easily transmitted. We encourage you to pray at home for now.

2. OFFICE

We ask our parishioners to stay home, follow the civil regulations for our own good and the good of others. These coming days are crucial, so please, remain at home as much possible.

Should there be an emergency, contact us immediately. Although the parish office is closed, our secretary can still be reached, our priests can still be reached. Leave your messages if no one responds, we will get back to you.

3. PRIVATE MASSES

Recently the Office of Divine Worship has been asked this question.

Is it possible to celebrate private Masses in people's homes if the number present is within the recommended 10 persons?

This practice would go against the spirit of the current social distancing measures and would unnecessarily put the health of those present at risk.

We must have consistency with regard to our liturgical life throughout the Archdiocese at this time.

Allowing such Masses would create an unfair system of preference within our parishes and place our priests in an untenable position.

After having consulted the Archbishop, this Office can confirm that priests should not celebrate Holy Mass in parishioner's homes at this time.

4. FUNERALS

Funeral Masses can be celebrated. It is recommended that only very close family attend within the limit of 10, in any case the limit of 25 must not be exceeded. A "Memorial Mass" [Mass for the Dead] be celebrated later for other family and friends.

5. WEDDINGS

Weddings can be celebrated within the recommended limit of 10 people, in any case the limit of 25 must not be exceeded. It is suspected that most couples will want to postpone their wedding. Parishes are asked to be flexible in rescheduling.

6. ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND VIATICUM

Priests are asked to respond generously to those who are seriously ill and request the anointing and viaticum. The directions of all medical facilities should be strictly followed.

7. CAN WE BRING HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND?

Holy Communion visits to the homebound should be suspended due to the health risks to some of our most vulnerable parishioners. Parishes should establish regular ‘telephone visits’ to those who are homebound to help them stay prayerfully connected to their parish.

8. CAN WE HAVE COMMUNION SERVICES INSTEAD OF MASS?

Communion Services are not allowed as they would attract crowds just as a public Mass would.

9. WHAT ABOUT THOSE PREPARING TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENTS ON EASTER?

The entire Rite of Christian Initiation is arranged so that the sacraments will be celebrated during the Easter Vigil, however because of serious pastoral needs another time can be selected. When the Rite of Christian Initiation occurs at a different point of the liturgical year, the structure of the entire Rite remains the same. [RCIA 26] Since performing these rites during the Easter Vigil would in most cases gather a crowd over the 25-person limit, pastors are asked to reschedule the Rites when regular public Masses are allowed. The appropriate delegations will transfer.

10. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO HOLY WEEK LITURGY?

The various Liturgies of Holy Week will be celebrated without the faithful at the Cathedral by the Archbishop and livestreamed. Each parish should celebrate the Holy Week Liturgies fully according to the Rites contained in the Roman Missal even in the absence of the faithful. Again readers, servers and other necessary ministers may be present within the limit (10 people) Parishes are encouraged to livestream these liturgies.

11. BULLETIN

As of today we are printing a bulletin which could be found on our website or picked up at the front office. Please call our secretary before you come in and request your copy.

12. PENITENTIAL SERVICE FOR EASTER

Not any time soon. We will let you know when or if this would be available in the coming weeks of Easter

As things progress, we may also change some regulations and include new ones. Please bear with us as we try our best to respond to this situation.