

GESU CATHOLIC CHURCH

Gesu Church Mass Attendance Guideline During COVID-19

If you wish to attend Mass at Gesu Church during COVID-19, you are most welcome. We ask that all attendees follow the guidelines below:

- ◆ Please enter through the southeast door off Oak Drive (this will be the only entrance):
 - Wearing a cloth mask is required at all times for all those in the church
 - Please check in with the greeter
 - Sit only in designated pews as directed by an usher or greeter
 - Occupancy is not to exceed 110 persons and social distancing is to be maintained
 - Saturday Masses are at 5:00 pm
 - Sunday Masses are at 8:00 am and 10:30 am
- ◆ Weekday Masses:
 - Monday–Friday at 5:30 pm

The 10:30 am Sunday Mass will be live-streamed on Gesu’s [Facebook](#) page as well as from the [Masses](#) page on the Gesu Church website.

Please note that those who are 65 and over or those with high-risk health conditions are encouraged to remain at home. This is the population that is most vulnerable to the Coronavirus. In addition, those who have tested positive for COVID-19 should not enter the church until released to do so by their health care professional.

Attendance Capacity and Seating

- ◆ Masses at Gesu will be limited to 25% capacity.
- ◆ For Gesu, this equates to 110 per Mass in our main sanctuary.
 - Parishioners are asked to sign up on Eventbrite to reserve participation at a given weekend Mass. Once a Mass is full, parishioners are welcome to sign up for the next available Mass. Please note that once we reach capacity for a given Mass, NO MORE individuals will be granted entry or seats. This is not meant to “deny” you access to Mass. Rather, this is to ensure the safety of everyone in our community—in accordance with guidelines from the CDC, the state of Michigan, and Archdiocesan guidelines for public assembly. We ask that you show appropriate respect to those tasked with greeting and ushering.
 - Once you are signed up, you will come to the southeast door of the church and have the greeter check off your name. You **DO NOT** need to bring a ticket or your reservation. The church will have the reservation list.
 - Once you and/or your family are checked in, go to the back of the church to have an usher guide you to your pew.
 - We will reserve an appropriate number of seats for parishioners who do not have access to Eventbrite and who arrive early enough to attend Mass.

Before You Arrive

- ◆ Wash your hands.

GESU CATHOLIC CHURCH

- ◆ Use your own bathroom facilities before leaving home. One unisex church bathroom will be open for use (at the southeast entrance) and we ask that it be used only if absolutely necessary.
- ◆ Masks for all persons are required at all times when in the church.

Mass Arrival Procedures

- ◆ Only the side doors at the southeast corner of the church off Oak Drive will be used for entry and exit.
- ◆ Remember to practice social distancing (six feet of separation) at all times.
- ◆ Please plan to arrive appropriately early.
- ◆ When stepping into the church after check-in, please go to the back to have an usher guide you to your seat. Please do not go to a seat without an usher.
- ◆ The church will be seated to fill the open pews from front to back.
- ◆ Every two pews will be closed. Unless you are from the same household, social distancing must be practiced in the pew at all times.
- ◆ You may be sharing a pew with another household, but six-foot social distance is required between households.
- ◆ The main rest room at the southeast entrance is to be used only if there is an urgent need. Rest rooms in the basement and sacristy will be closed.
- ◆ The holy water fonts will remain empty.

Mass Procedures

- ◆ Masses will be conducted with reduced numbers of lay ministers.
- ◆ There will be no altar servers or choir.
- ◆ There will be a cantor/musician.
- ◆ We will use specially-trained members of the community to be ushers at this time.
- ◆ There will be no presentation of gifts.
- ◆ Offertory collection in the pews by the ushers is suspended, but you will be able to place your weekly offering in a basket that has been placed near the (east) side of the altar. We encourage online giving at <https://www.gesudetroit.com/giving>
- ◆ Please refrain from holding hands during the Lord's Prayer.
- ◆ The Sign of Peace will be done without person-to-person contact. This can be done with a nod, a wave or with eye contact.

Holy Communion Procedures

- ◆ Holy Communion will be distributed in the main aisle only. There will be one communion line, moving down the center of the main aisle.
- ◆ Ushers will dismiss each pew to maintain social distancing.
- ◆ Holy Communion will be distributed by Fr. Phil or Fr. Peter and one lay minister.
- ◆ Holy Communion will be distributed **only** in the form of the Host—the Body of Christ.
 - The Precious Blood will **not** be offered to the congregation. *As Catholics, we believe that Christ is fully present Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity even when we only receive either the Body or Blood of Christ at Mass. You are also not*

GESU CATHOLIC CHURCH

required to receive each time you attend Mass. You may continue with “Spiritual Communion” if you prefer.

- ◆ Holy Communion should be received in the hands only. **You may not receive communion wearing gloves.**
- ◆ There will be no blessing of non-communicants, per Archdiocesan directive.

Final Procession and Departure

- ◆ After the final blessing, the assembly should remain in their pews. Pews will be dismissed by ushers in an orderly fashion starting in the front of the church and then moving back. You must exit your pew and leave the church from the southeast doors.
- ◆ ***To allow the church to be cleaned and reset for the next Mass, private prayer will not be available after Masses.***
- ◆ Please maintain social distancing after Mass, both inside and outside of the church.

Church Cleaning Procedures

- ◆ Gesu will continue to implement cleanliness and sanitization practices, including cleaning pews between every Mass.
- ◆ Disinfecting bathrooms, door handles, and other frequently touched surfaces will also occur throughout the day.
- ◆ Parish staff, greeters and ushers will be required to wear face masks, wash hands, and will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms.

Final Thoughts

You are reminded to follow CDC recommendations regarding your own health. The Archbishop is strongly encouraging those considered “at risk” by the CDC (65 years of age and over or those with high-risk health conditions) to remain at home and join the community via live-stream. In addition, those who have tested positive for COVID-19 should not enter a church until released to do so by their health care professional.

If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Center at (313) 862-4400 and leave a voicemail for the staff member you would like to reach.

Thank you!

Revised 7-29-20