

Guidelines for Attending Public Mass

We are excited to welcome our St. Vincent's family back to church. However, there are a number of new procedures that you will be expected to follow. We hope you will be understanding as we implement social distancing and other safety practices required for us to hold public Masses. Please review the following guidelines. These policies are meant to protect all parishioners, staff and clergy.

- The general dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation will remain in place
- Masses will continue to be recorded each weekend and available online.
- If you are sick, are caring for someone who is sick, are elderly, have underlying health conditions or have trouble wearing a mask for the entirety of Mass, please consider tuning in to one of our online options.
- The church (pews, kneelers, door knobs, etc.) will be sanitized after each mass.
- To attend mass, a reservation is required. Reservations can be made online at <https://www.stvdepaulchurch.org/mass-reservation> or by calling the parish office at 570-686-4545.
- Please use the bathroom before coming to church. To reduce the amount of required sanitization, only one bathroom will be available.
- Hymnals and missals will not be available.
- All Mass attendees over the age of two years must wear a mask that covers both nose and mouth. Please have it on when you exit your vehicle. If you do not have a mask, one will be given to you as you enter the church.
- If you have hand sanitizer, we encourage you to bring it with you for use before receiving Communion.
- You will be asked the following questions upon arrival:
 - Have you or anyone in your attending group experienced symptoms associated with Covid-19 Coronavirus (cough, low-grade fever, difficulty breathing, loss of taste/sense of smell) in the last 14 days?
 - Have you or anyone in your attending group been exposed to someone with the Covid-19 Coronavirus in the last 14 days?
- Offertory baskets will not be passed during Mass. A stationary donation box will be available near the Baptismal font.
- Doors to the church will be unlocked 15 minutes prior to the start of Mass. Parishioners will be seated by the Greeter beginning 15 minutes before Mass. Doors will be closed and no one will be seated once Mass begins.
- Six feet will be required between individuals or family groups and no physical contact is allowed between groups.
- Communion will be distributed at the end of Mass. The Greeter will direct the flow of the one-way Communion procession. Gather your belongings when going to Communion. You will receive the Eucharist (preferably in your hand, no gloves.) You will then step to the side, remove your mask and consume the Blessed Sacrament. Replace your mask before making your way to the exit door. Parishioners will not return to their pew but immediately exit the church.
- Bulletins will not be handed out but will be available. Bulletins are also available online at <https://www.stvdepaulchurch.org/publications>.
- Please go directly to your vehicle. We cannot allow any congregating after Mass.
- To lessen your exposure to crowds, consider attending one of the daily Masses on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays at 9:00 a.m. You will need a reservation for attending daily Mass as well. You can make a reservation online at <https://www.stvdepaulchurch.org/mass-reservation> or by calling the parish office at 570-686-4545.

Thank you for your support throughout this pandemic. These guidelines may be revised periodically as we work through this process, so please check our website (<https://www.stvdepaulchurch.org/mass-reservation>) for the most up-to-date guidance.