

*St. Michael the Archangel
Georgetown DE*



*Mary Mother of Peace
Millsboro DE*

MASS INTENTION GUIDELINES

In order to give the opportunity for all parishioners to schedule a Mass Intention for their loved ones and to accommodate recently deceased individuals, the Mass Intention book will open for 3 months at a time. We will not schedule a Mass Intention unless the book is open for those dates (below).

DATES:

1. **November (Third Tuesday)** - the book will open for January-February-March.
2. **February (last Tuesday)** - the book will open for April-May-June.
3. **May (last Tuesday)** - the book will open for July-August-September.
4. **August (last Tuesday)** - the book will open for October-November-December. (**All Souls envelopes are available all November)

Three (3) Mass requests per quarter are allowed with the following stipulations:

- Due to the limited availability of weekend Masses, no one person/family may schedule more than **ONE WEEKEND MASS PER QUARTER**. (Weekends comprise Saturday AND Sunday regardless of church).
- **DAILY WEEKDAY MASS INTENTIONS** may be scheduled 2 per quarter. Requests will be honored on a first-come, first-serve basis in the order in which the request is received.
- Mass Intention spaces ought to be available for families who have experienced a recent loss.
- Mass Intentions may be requested for Sundays and weekdays throughout the Year, except:
 - Christmas Vigil and Christmas Day, Easter Vigil and Easter Masses (the Sacred Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday or Holy Saturday), Mother's Day week and Father's Day week Masses. All Saints/All Souls week. These Masses will be celebrated for our priests' intentions. Masses are always for the intentions of the Living and Deceased Members (*People of the Parish*).
- While we make every effort to accommodate parishioner's requests for specific dates, it is not always possible. If a requested date is not available, the Mass will be scheduled on the next date available at the requested church.
- One Mass every Sunday must be scheduled by the Pastor for the intentions of our parishioners known as "Pro Populo" (For the People/*People of the Parish*) as required by Canon Law and diocesan statute.
- The parish will only have one Mass Intention per Mass to keep us current with Canon Law of the Catholic Church. Each Mass is said for one person or one family:
 1. Please also note that Church governance requires that only one intention (person) per Mass is allowed. However, for pastoral concerns to better accommodate the needs of the parishioners, we will adhere to the following: Up to three (3) first names with the same last name (i.e. John, Paul and Mary Smith) or two last names only (i.e. Scott and Smith Families) will be allowed per intention.
 2. Lengthy intention listings cannot be published in the Bulletin and must be edited for the sake of brevity. Since the purpose of publishing the intention in the Bulletin is to notify the family and friends of the intention, we suggest the omission of middle names, titles, etc. Each intention should be limited to two names or one group.
 3. **IMPORTANT:** Please indicate if the person whom the mass is being offered is **living** or **deceased**.

Please Read Carefully:

4. Mass Intentions will not be rescheduled if a verbal announcement was not heard during Mass. The priest is under the strict obligation to remember the person for whom the Mass is being offered and it is presumed that the priest will offer the Mass as requested. The intention is a spiritual act and its verbal publication neither adds nor subtracts from its validity.
5. Canon Law does not permit us to keep Mass intentions beyond those that we are able to schedule in a year's time.

Mass Intention and Mass Card Offerings:

1. Mass intention/Mass card offerings are \$10.00 per intention and should be received prior to scheduled intention date.
2. Offerings can be made in the form of: cash, check, or online at:
<https://smammop.weshareonline.org/ws/opportunities/MassIntentions>

