

Forward with Christ

A Path to Renewing Catholic Life



The following are guidelines from the Diocese of Cleveland for the safe return of public worship.

1. Dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains in effect for the Catholic faithful until it is completely safe to return to public Masses.
2. If your temperature is 100.4F or more you should stay home. The same is true if you are not feeling well.
3. Entrance into and exit from the church will be through the parking lot ramp doors only. The State Road doors and Snow Road door will remain locked from the outside and are not to be used for exit (except for emergency). The door between the church and State Road building will be unlocked and can be used to enter and exit.
4. The faithful are obliged to wear a mask or face covering upon entering church, except during the brief time to receive Holy Communion. It is encouraged (not absolutely required) to receive Communion in the hand, not on the tongue. Gloves must be removed to receive Holy Communion.
5. Hymnals and participation cards are removed. A single participation sheet will be used. These sheets will be disposed of after each Mass.
6. Social distancing must be observed at all times. There will be limited seating:
 - ⇒ Every other pew in the designated spots,
 - ⇒ 3 people in the longer pews, 2 people in the short pews along the walls,
 - ⇒ Families and couples may sit next to each other.
7. Collection baskets will not be passed. A basket will be set in front of the Marian altar (as you exit through the parking lot doors) in which you can place your church envelope or cash offering.
8. The procedure for the reception of Holy Communion is as follows –
 - a. Ushers will let each pew out, from front to back.
 - b. Communion will be distributed first to the pews along the main aisle. Two lines will form in the main aisle as usual. People will enter the main aisle one pew at a time (from front to back) and will stand at the tape marks in the aisle (6 ft. apart). One needs to pull down one's mask below the chin, remove gloves, receive Holy Communion in the hand (preferably), consume the host and return to the pew by means of the side aisles.
 - c. Once the long pews receive Communion, the ministers will go to the side aisles to distribute to the people in the pews along the walls. Those receiving Communion will come forward pew by pew, *from the front pews to the back pews*, stand at the tape marks on the floor (6 ft. apart) and receive Communion as described above.
9. When exiting church – one pew at a time from front to back. Do not “bunch up” – observe social distancing! Ushers (wearing gloves) will distribute the bulletins. Note - bulletins will not be in the wall racks before or after Mass.