

Guidelines for Attending Weekend Masses

1. Everyone should enter the church on the east side of the church (side closest to the rectory) or through the middle front doors of the church. If you use the handicap ramp on the west side of the church (near the Blessed Sacrament Chapel) an usher will be present to assist you.
2. When entering the Cathedral for Mass, **everyone must wear a face covering that covers both the nose and mouth.** This is a directive of our Bishop. If you forgot to bring your face covering, tell the usher and we will provide one until they run out.
3. Upon entering the church, use the hand sanitizer that will be at the door. Please consider using it again when you leave.
4. Ushers will be present to seat you. Their responsibility is to seat everyone in a way that maintains social-distancing (six feet) between you and those around you. It is most likely you will not be seated in the place you normally like to sit. For now, please be patient and humble. If you use a hearing assist device—available in the sacristy—please tell the usher because those using the device should sit in the front half of the church for the device to be effective. If you need special seating due to a disability, let the usher know so we can keep you in the front rows of the church.
5. For Holy Communion, follow the instructions of the ushers. We will distribute Holy Communion first to those on the left side of the church as you face the Altar, then to the opposite side. The ushers will call you from your row beginning in the front. Be sure to keep six feet between you and the person in front of you.
6. When in the Communion line, wear your face covering. Receive the Blessed Sacrament in your hands, take a few steps away, and then adjust your mask to receive the Blessed Sacrament. If you insist on receiving on your tongue, which is your right, the minister must stop distributing, re-sanitize his or her hands, and then resume distribution.
7. When Mass has concluded, the ushers will release you pew by pew to help maintain social distancing.
8. To the best of your ability, try to avoid using the bathrooms. (This will be easy for some but not so easy for others of us!) The bathroom doors will be propped open just enough so that you can enter and leave the bathrooms without having to touch the door. Parents, please escort younger children to and from the bathroom and help them remember to wash their hands properly. We will sanitize the bathrooms between Masses, but we cannot do so effectively during Masses. Please reserve the single bathroom near the side entrance of the church for our handicapped and older parishioners who cannot easily walk to the other bathrooms.
9. Once Mass is concluded, we humbly ask that you leave the church so that our staff can begin the process of sanitizing the pews as soon as possible. The sanitizer must be applied and have time to dry before the next Mass.
10. To avoid unnecessary contact with items that are commonly touched, there will be no hymnbooks or worship aids in the pews. The collection baskets will not be passed out by the ushers. Please leave your donation in baskets at the Altar and near the doors. Bulletins will be available only after Mass. Of course, the bulletin is always available online.