



## **In-Person Liturgy in the Age of Coronavirus - How We Adjust Our Practice for Mass**

Thank you for planning to join us for Liturgy in person at St. Elizabeth. As we return to Mass together, we need to adjust our usual practices before, during, and after our prayer time at Mass.

These adjustments are intended to help us:

- Maintain all participants' health and safety
- Honor the guidelines for gathering provided by our civic and religious leaders

These different practices are intended to be temporary, a station on the journey as we anticipate the day we can worship together in one space at one time.

Additional adjustments may be made following detailed review of our initial gatherings. Here are the adjustments:

### **PLEASE STAY HOME**

- If you have a fever – take your temperature before you leave home for Mass
- If you have ANY underlying health conditions: diabetes, cancer, heart problems, pulmonary issues, ANY health issue that has compromised your immune system
- If you feel ill
- If you have any concern that you might receive or give infection to others

### ➤ **Mask --**

- Each individual must wear a mask (cloth or medical) that covers nose and mouth the entire time you are on the St. Elizabeth campus and in the church building
- Masks are **NOT** available at the church. If you do not have your own mask, you will not be allowed entry.

### ➤ **Check-in --**

- Each individual must have previously registered and received confirmation to participate in that day's Liturgy
- Each individual's name is checked at the entry to the church building before being allowed to enter the building
- Each individual/family group honors physical distancing guidelines while in line to check-in
- Each person/family group arrives in sufficient time to check-in and to complete the seating process
- Check-in begins 30 minutes before the scheduled start time
- Liturgy will not begin until all expected participants in line have checked in and are seated

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➤ **Church Entry --**

- Each individual enters the church building from the West Door (parking lot side) -- there is only one check-in station
- Once checked in, each individual and family group promptly follows the seating guidance provided by the ushers
- Once all are seated, no further entry by individuals not on the confirmation list will be allowed
- You do not ....
  - Use Holy Water
  - Light Candles at the Vigil Station
  - Stop at the Tabernacle

➤ **Seating --**

- Each individual -- or each family group -- moves directly to the pew section designated by the ushers, with no visiting and no wandering
- You do not choose your own seats -- this means that it is likely that each individual or family group will be seated in a different part of church than usual
- Each individual remains in the assigned pew section until the formal departure at the end of the Liturgy

➤ **Restrooms are not available**

➤ **Physical Distancing --**

- While on church campus, each individual avoids physical contact (including handshakes, hugs, and high-fives) with anyone (exceptions to this guideline apply within family groups)
- Entry, Seating, and Departure activities are designed to maintain a minimum of 6 feet of separation between individuals (or between individuals and members of family groups)
- You must follow the instructions of ushers, Fr. Greg, and parish staff members

➤ **Communion --**

- For Communion, you are to remain in your assigned seating area while moving to the edge of the pew at the nearest aisle
- Fr. Greg moves from pew to pew to distribute Communion
- When Fr. Greg is standing in front of you, extend your arms in front of you, and prepare your hands to receive Communion
- Only after Fr. Greg moves to the next pew: pull your mask down, consume the Blessed Sacrament, and replace your mask over your nose and mouth
- Then return to the seating area of your pew section - you may sit or kneel in prayer and reflection
- Note that Fr. Greg will not touch your hand when distributing Communion -- if he does contact your hand, he will need to sanitize his hands before proceeding with Communion

➤ **Departure --**

- Each person must remain in your designated pew section until the Final Blessing and Dismissal Song (so we might as well just sing our hearts out !)
- After the Dismissal Song is completed, all sit
- Ushers will direct each individual or family group when it is your turn to exit
- Each individual or family group follows the instructions of the usher to exit into the aisle, proceeds into the Narthex (back of Church), and exits through the Center (Southeast) Door at 75th and Main
- Each individual or family group moves directly to your vehicle and leaves campus without stopping to converse with other participants (that's what Zoom is for!)
- Each individual leaves your mask in place until you have left the St. Elizabeth Campus