



**CHURCH
OF THE
ASCENSION**

Instructions for Mass in Special Circumstances Autumn 2020

“Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.” Psalm 96

For your safety and the safety of others, your familiarity and cooperation with all safety measures will be greatly appreciated.

If you are sick

If you have any symptoms that may be related to COVID-19, please turn around and go home. Please ask if you need help.

Wear a mask

Masks are to be worn at all times inside all parts of the church. Ask for one if needed. See our reminders about proper mask fit.

Clean hands

Please wash and sanitize your hands often.
Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building.

Take a seat

Please wait for an usher to help you find a seat that complies with social distancing. Members of the same household may share a pew. Whether alone or with others, please remain a few feet from any aisle.

Communion

Please know, anticipate and follow Communion safety measures found on the following pages.

Restrooms

Restroom use instructions are found on the following pages.

Going home

Following the mass and organ voluntary, please exit only by the side aisles and nearest narthex door. Stay safe out there.

**Thank you for taking part in the mass today.
Please see additional information on the following pages.**

DOs AND DON'Ts OF WEARING A MASK



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- Masks are to be worn and worn properly at all times in all parts of the church building.
- Disposable surgical masks can be provided to you at no charge.

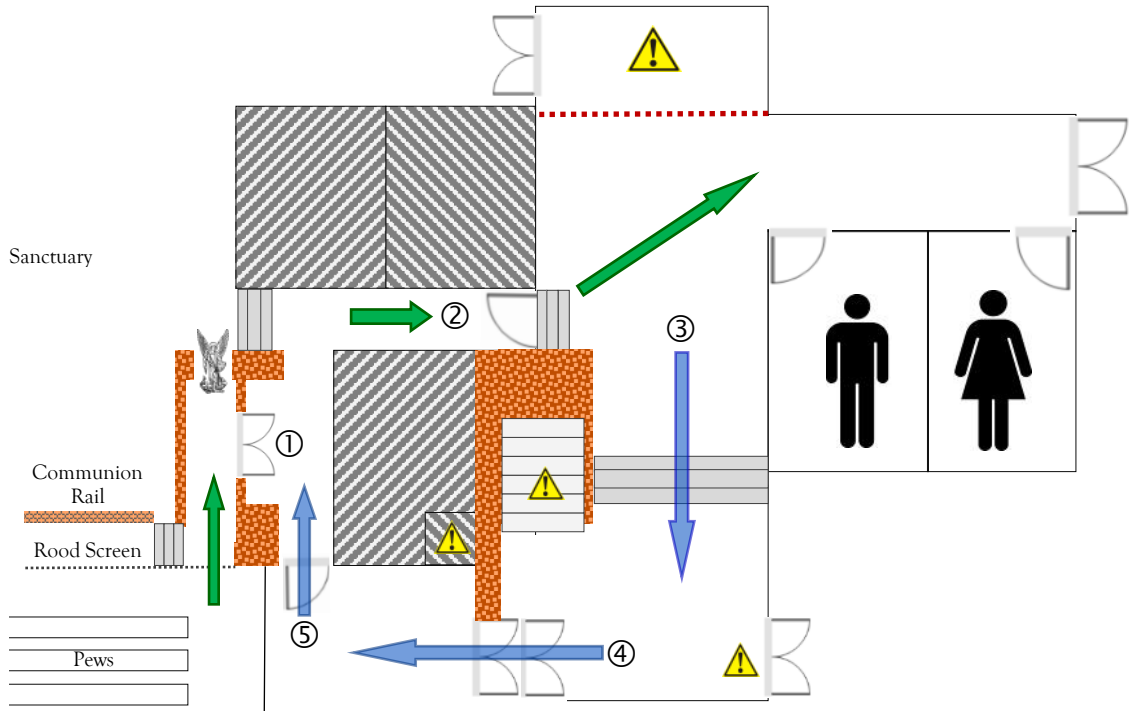
Nave Seating with Social Distancing



For your safety and the safety of others, please sit only in designated seats.

In the event that a restroom is needed during the mass...

- Leave the nave through the doors by the shrine to St. Michael). ①
- Proceed through the sacristies hallway. ②
- Use only the large restrooms in the back hallway of the parish house
- Return by way of the parish house hallway ③, Wheeler Hall ④ and the Wheeler Hall door into the sacristies hallway.



Contact Tracing

In the event that we learn of someone at today's mass who later tests positive for COVID-19 or who displays and reports concerning symptoms, you will be timely notified by email at the address you provided to register for this mass.

In the event that you test positive or display concerning symptoms, please report it to the Rector or Parish Administrator at office@ascensionchicago.org.



Information about safely receiving Communion is found at the place in the following order of worship where/when you will need it.

Prayer for the Parish

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer, page 817

Prayers in a Time of Peril

We humbly beseech thee, O Father, mercifully to look upon our infirmities; and, for the glory of thy Name, turn from us all sickness, evil, fear and sorrow; and grant that in all our troubles we may put our whole trust and confidence in thy mercy, and evermore serve thee in holiness and pureness of living, to thy honor and glory; through our only Mediator and Advocate, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Supplication from the Great Litany, Book of Common Prayer, page 154

Prayer for an Election

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer, page 822

A Prayer attributed to St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled
as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. *Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer, page 833

Prayer after Receiving Communion

O Lord Jesus Christ, who in a wonderful Sacrament hast left unto us a memorial of thy passion: Grant us, we beseech thee, so to venerate the sacred mysteries of thy Body and Blood, that we may ever perceive within ourselves the fruit of thy redemption; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Book of Common Prayer, page 834



The Feast of St. Michael and All Angels

October 4, 2020

Church of the Ascension, Chicago

Organ Voluntary

Fantaisie pour la Fête de Saint-Michel [1919]

Camille Saint Saëns (1835-1921)

THE ENTRANCE RITES

All Stand as the Ministers enter.

After Incense is made the Deacon says: Let us go forth in peace

People: In the name of Christ. Amen.

Station at the Shrine of St. Michael the Archangel

After incense is made, the Celebrant says

Holy Michael Archangel, defend us in the day of battle

People **That we perish not in the dreadful judgement.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle: be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and the other evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of our souls. **Amen.**

The Celebrant asperges the Shrine.

Introit "Benedicite dominum" (Ps. 103) Mode III

Benedicite dominum omnes angeli eius: potentes virtute, qui facitis verbum eius, ad audiendam vocem sermonum eius. Ps. Benedic anima mea domino: et omnia quae intra me sunt, nomini sancto eius. V. Gloria patri, et filio, et spiritui sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

O praise the lord, ye angels of his, ye that excel in strength: ye that fulfill his commandment, and hearken unto the voice of his words. Ps. Praise the lord, o my soul: and all that is within me, praise his holy name. V. Glory be to the father, and to the son, and to the holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy upon us. **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Christ, have mercy upon us. **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

Lord, have mercy upon us. **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Gloria in excelsis

Celebrant and People

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:

have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory + of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals: Mercifully grant that, as your holy angels always serve and worship you in heaven, so by your appointment they may help and defend us here on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sit **The First Lesson**

Genesis 28:10-

17

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual “Benedicite Dominum” (Ps.103) Mode III

Benedicite Dominum, omnes Angeli eius: potentes virtute, qui facitis verbum eius.

O praise the Lord, ye Angels of his, ye that excel in strength: ye that fulfill his commandment.

The Epistle

Revelation 12:7-12

War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, “Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death. Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you with great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Stand **Alleluia** “Sancte Michaël Archangele” Mode VIII

Alleluia, alleluia. V. Sancte Michaël Archangele, defende nos in proelio: ut non pereamus in tremendo iudicio. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia. V. Holy Michael Archangel, defend us in the day of battle: that we perish not in the dreadful judgment. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel

John 1:47-51

Deacon The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, “Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!” Nathanael asked him, “Where did you get to know me?” Jesus answered, “I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.” Nathanael replied, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered, “Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.” And he said to him, “Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sit The Sermon

Deacon George Arceneaux

Stand The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

Genuflect
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

Rise
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son
he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Kneel **The Prayers of the People**

Form III (BCP p. 387)

*After parochial prayers and thanksgivings are offered, the Leader and People
pray responsively:*

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Celebrant Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things:
Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us
with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus
Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Confession of Sin

Clergy Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Silence.*

Minister and People

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have

sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done, and by

what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

All stand. The Celebrant says to the people

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

All greet one another in the name of the Lord.



Please feel free to turn and greet others distantly. Unless a member of your immediate household with whom you are sitting, please refrain from hugging, shaking hands, fist-bumping, elbow-bumping, etc. Thank you.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

Offertory “Stetit Angelus” (Rev. 8) Mode 1

Stetit Angelus iuxta aram templi, habens thuribulum aureum in manu sua: et data sunt ei incensa multa: et ascendit fumus aromatum in conspectu Dei, alleluia.

An Angel stood at the altar of the temple, having a golden censer in his hand, and there was given unto him much incense: and ascended up the smoke of the incense before God, alleluia.

*Thank you for your financial offerings. Please wait until after the mass to leave them in one of two offering boxes at the back of the aisles.
For the sake of social distancing, offering plates will not be circulated.*

Organ Improvisation on CAELITES PLAUDANT

Stand The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Orate Fratres

Celebrant Pray, my brothers and sisters, that this my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

People **May the Lord receive this sacrifice at your hands, to the praise and glory of his Name, both to our benefit and that of all his holy Church.**

Celebrant Amen.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For with your co-eternal Son and Holy Spirit, you are one God, one Lord, in Trinity of Persons and in Unity of Being; and we celebrate the one and equal glory of you, O Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Celebrant and People

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

Our Father,

who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us.

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.

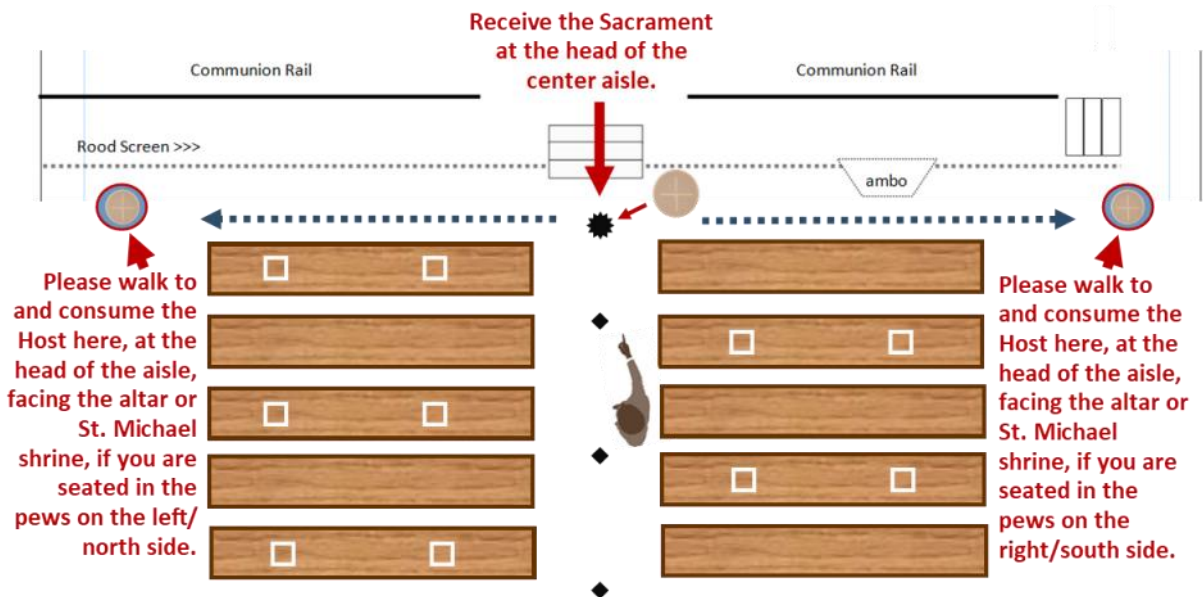
Invitation to Communion

Celebrant Behold the Lamb of God; behold him that takes away the sins of the world. Happy are they who are called to his supper.

Lord, I am not worthy that you should come under my roof.

People But speak the word only, and my soul shall be healed.

Please see Communion instructions below and on the following page



† All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Communion, and all may come forward.

Those who are not baptized or who do not wish to take Communion may indicate a desire for a blessing by crossing arms on the chest upon approaching the priest.

Communion of the People with Social Distancing

①

Remain seated as the priest receives the Sacrament, puts on a face shield, Communicates others in the Sanctuary, and moves to the head of the main aisle.

②

Remain seated until an usher in the aisle makes eye contact and indicates you may go forward. Use the center aisle. Maintain social distancing. (The black diamonds on the aisle floor are 6 feet apart.)

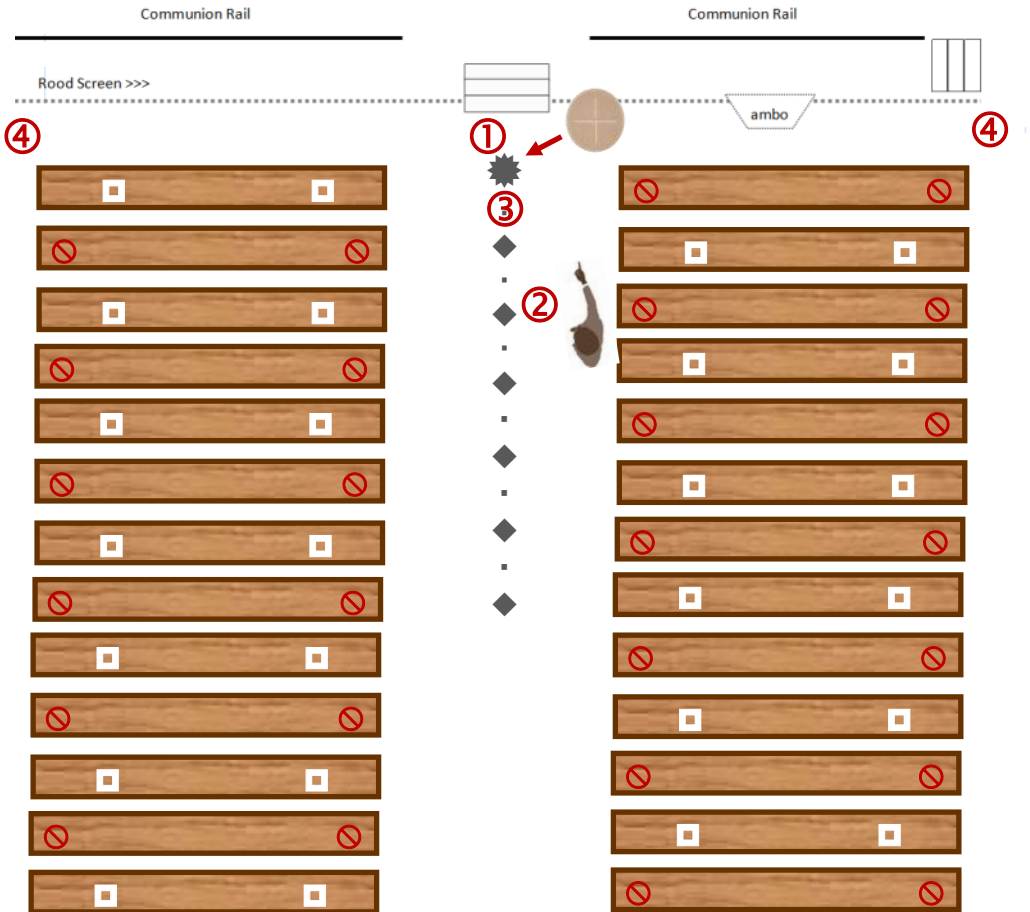
③

Keeping your mask on, extend your hands, palm up, one over the other, to receive a Host. You may not receive Communion in the mouth. Before consuming the Host, proceed right or left ...

④

Pause at the head of the north or south aisle, near the Mary shrine or Michael shrine. Face the shrine or altar, briefly remove your mask, consume the Host, replace your mask, return to your same seat, give thanks and pray.

NOTE: If you are unable to go forward to receive Communion, the priest will bring the Sacrament to you after giving it to others.



THE COMMUNION

Communion “Benedicite, omnes Angeli” (Dan. 3) Mode III

Benedicite, omnes Angeli Domini Dominum:

hymnum dicite, et superexaltate eum in saecula.

O ye Angels of the Lord, bless ye the Lord:

sing ye praises, and magnify him above all for ever.

Communion Motet

Michael, coeli signifer, Gabriel, mundi lucifer, Raphael, tres archangeli Christi et omnes angeli, amantes casta corpora nostra per cuncta saecula tuentur ab insidiis hostium et perfidiis. Hi nos semper custodiant et post mortem suscipiant, angelorum altissimo laudem canamus Domino.

Michael, standard-bearer of heaven—Gabriel, the light-bringer of the world—Raphael— the three archangels of Christ and all the angels, the beloved ones: through all the ages they protect our bodily purity from the snares and treacheries of our enemies. May they always guard us, and after death may they receive us. Let us sing the praise of the angels to the Lord Most High.

Setting: Jacobus Gallus (1550-1591) *Michael coeli signifer*. Recorded by the Choir of the Ascension.

Kneel *After Communion, the Celebrant says*

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

The Priest blesses the people.

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

The Deacon dismisses the people; the People respond: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Voluntary

Festival Toccata for St. Michael's Day [1914]

Percy Fletcher (1879-1932)

*Exit: If you must leave before the conclusion of the organ voluntary,
please raise your hand and an Usher will assist you.*

At the conclusion of the mass

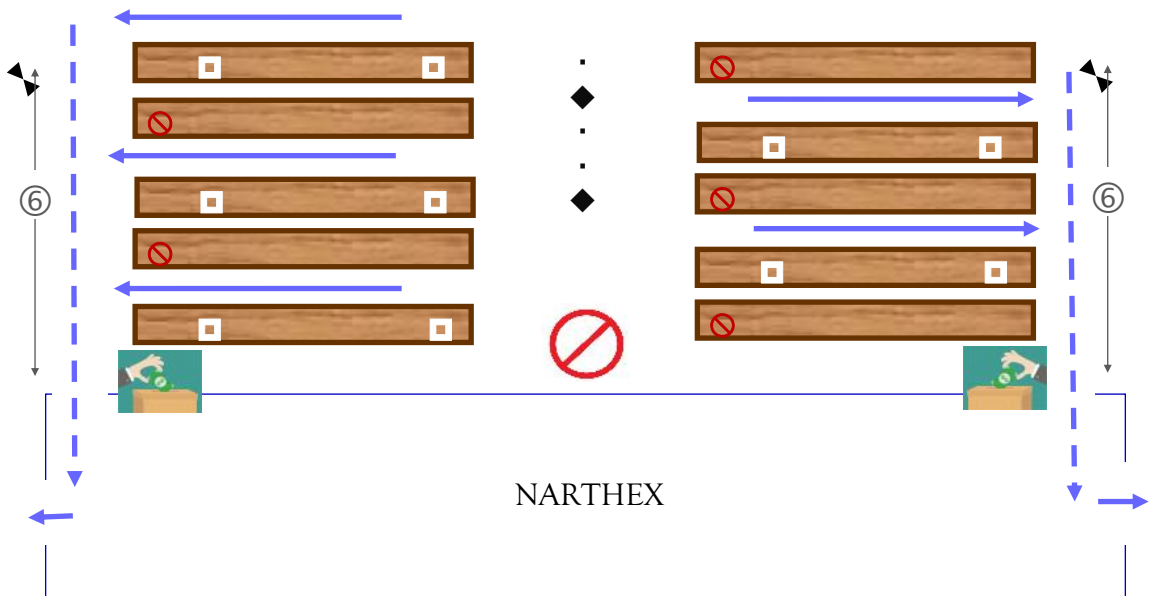
Please leave following the Dismissal or immediately after the Voluntary.

Leave by way of the side aisles only. ⑥

Leave your financial gifts in one of the offering boxes at the back of the aisles.

Continue to practice social distancing.

Pray for the Church and for the world.



For our prayers: Charley Taylor,
August 'Augie' Alonzo, Jim Berger,
Ethel Martin,
Dean Pineda, Charlene MacDougal,
Marty Stenson, David Byerly, Bonnie
Joseph, Catriana Patriarca, Robert
Devens, Richard Laibly, Nicholas Carl,
Sara, the Howard family, Owen
Raymond, Diane Burnett, Sandra,
Rhea, the Friedman family, Doreen
Rao, Steven Wallis, Chuck Kohn

Birthdays: Michael J. Vales, 10/4;
Ralph Vara, 10/4; Richard William
Connaughton, 10/5; Deacon Charles
F. Farrell, 10/7; Edmund Sebkowski,
10/8; David Alan Robertson, 10/10

Marriage:
Paloma McDonnell & Trevor Peterson,
9/26,2020;
Ted & LaVerne Saunders, 10/7/1989;
Jim & DiAnne Walsh, 10/9/1976

Requiescat in pace: Adelle M. Norén,
10/7/2003; Gladys Schlough,
10/8/2009

For the Departed: Marcella Marszalek,
Catherine Bednar

Since March 15, 2020, Masses have included
recordings of the Ordinary, chants, hymns, solos,
and/or motets, provided by members of our Choir,
Choirmaster, and Organist.

Soprano Kaitlin Foley, Alexandra Olsavsky, Alexia Rivera
Alto Amy Johnson, Emily Price, Cassidy Smith
Tenor Enrico Bellomo, Jared Esguerra, Silfredo Serrano
Bass David Govertsen, John Orduña, Ian Prichard

THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
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The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey D. Lee, *Bishop of Chicago*
The Very Rev. Patrick R. Raymond, *Rector*
(praymond@ascensionchicago.org)
The Rev. Gary Lawler, *Assisting Priest*
The Rev. Dr. Robert Petite, *Assisting Priest*
The Rev. Canon Alonzo Pruitt, *Assisting Priest*
The Rev. Charles F. Farrell, *Deacon Associate*
The Rev. George Arceneaux, *Curate & Deacon*
Gary Alexander
(SeniorWarden@AscensionChicago.org)
Cheryl Peterson
(JuniorWarden@AscensionChicago.org)
Benjamin Rivera, *Choirmaster*
(brivera@ascensionchicago.org)
David White, *Organist*
(benbritten@yahoo.com)
David Schrader, *Organist Emeritus*
Kelly Colomberti, **Marilyn Evans**, **Lynette Hector**,
Patrick Johnston, **Kenneth Kelling**, **George**
Pineda, **David Reeves**, **Enrique Vilaseco**, **Amber**
Zelazny, *Vestry*
George Panice, *Facilities Manager*
(gpanice@gmail.com)
Nathanael Deward Rahm BSG, *Parish Office*
(office @asionchicago.org)

Welcome to worship at the
Church of the Ascension
An Anglican-Episcopal parish in the
city and Diocese of Chicago

SOME WHO HAVE GATHERED HERE TODAY may have traveled from afar and visited before. Church of the Ascension has long been a destination for those who feel blessed by the Anglo-Catholic worship here. Others may have made a shorter trip, and those here for the first time may ask, “What’s *Anglo-Catholic*?” The term refers to two aspects of our history and ongoing faith and worship.

Anglican churches are those in the tradition of, and with ongoing ties to, the Church of England. (In the United States we are mainly called Episcopalians.)

The ‘*Catholic*’ part of our identity is evident all around us here, in the church interior and in our worship.

- + We value and relish liturgy and music that engage and nourish the heart the mind and all the senses.
- + Our reverence for the sacrament of the Eucharist, the Mass, Christ’s Body and Blood, is emphasized by the architecture of the space and many elements of our worship.
- + We have a strong sense of taking part, as Christ’s people, in the Communion of Saints, including Blessed Mary and our patron saint, Michael the Archangel. Our faith is inspired and sustained by remembering the lives and witness of those who are now eternally with God.

We hope and pray that our sense of grateful, divine fellowship translates to our welcome of all and to faithfulness in the ministries that we share beyond our life of worship.

Your questions about our parish community, our worship and other ministries may be found by inquiring with our clergy or parishioners, or on our website – www.ascensionchicago.org.

Thank you and bless you for joining us.

- Father Patrick Raymond, *Rector*



The mosaic on the door of the altar tabernacle, Church of the Ascension

- **All baptized Christians are welcomed to receive Communion.** Others are welcomed to come for-ward at the time of Communion to receive a blessing.
- **Coffee Hour, Fellowship and Spiritual Formation opportunities** are unavailable at this time due to health concerns arising from COVID-19. We look forward to a time when we can again gather in more diverse ways and contexts.
- **Please ask an usher about a parking permit** if your car will be in our parking lot after 1:30 pm today.

Church of the Ascension
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