

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR MASS AS OF APRIL 24, 2021

Highlighted text is specific to attendees; remaining text more general parish safety practices.

Mass Times & Information

- Mass will continue to be livestreamed. The following link will take you to our parish Facebook page: www.Facebook.com/PBVMChurch
- **Public** Mass Times in the church: Sundays at 9:30am, Wednesdays at 8:00am, Fridays at 8:45am and Saturdays at 5:00pm
- **Non-Public** Mass Times in the Divine Mercy Chapel: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:00am, and First Saturdays at 9:00am.
 - *Tuesdays and Thursdays are reserved for funerals.
- Please be patient. Modifications will continue to be made to these protocols as needed.

Before Mass

- Any of the faithful who are ill, experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, or caring for someone ill are asked to refrain from attending Mass in the church.
- Persons 65 years of age and older, and those with preexisting health conditions, are strongly encouraged to stay home and avoid public gatherings, per Archdiocesan guidelines.
- We ask all attendees to please use the restrooms at home before coming to church for Mass.
- Face coverings or masks are <u>required</u> to attend Mass. <u>Exceptions</u> include: children 2 years of age and younger, those for whom wearing a mask poses a greater health risk than not wearing one, and those whose ministry requires speaking or singing for Mass.
- Please try to stay socially distanced at least 6 feet from other households as you enter and leave the campus.
 Please keep small children close and do not allow them to wander on their own.
- Doors will be unlocked/open 30 minutes prior to the start of Mass. ONLY the Kennard Street Entrance and North Entrance (Handicap) doors will be used at this time. Other doors will be used only for emergencies.
- Entrance doors will be propped open when possible to minimize contact with door handles.

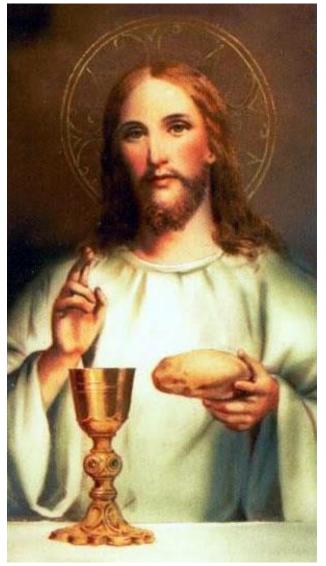
- You will be required to sanitize or wash your hands as you enter the church. Hand sanitizer stations will be available at the entrances of the church. Restrooms are located in the lower level to wash your hands.
- If you are not comfortable attending on Sundays, you are encouraged to attend Wednesday or Friday Mass instead. Archbishop Hebda's dispensation for attending Sunday Mass remains in effect during the pandemic for the Archdiocese of Saint Paul & Mpls.
- Signs will be posted as reminders to maintain safe distancing and sanitary guidelines.
- High-use areas of the church, including restrooms, will be disinfected before/after each liturgy.
- Baptismal and holy water fonts will remain empty.
- Pews are marked off to provide proper spacing.
- Please respect the directions of the ushers and other ministers at Church.

During Mass

- No congregational singing of hymns will be done during this time, however, the singing of the Gloria and response parts that are sung at Mass is encouraged.
- During the times when the cantor is singing hymns (ex: Processional, Offertory, Communion and Recessional sungs), you are encouraged to listen to the music and allow it and their words to lift you up into the prayer of the Mass.
- The Sign of Peace has been brought back into the liturgy, with the following instructions, "From a distance, let us offer each other a sign of peace."
- Holding of hands during the Lord's Prayer is discouraged.
- During the Offertory, Ushers will come by with the collection baskets, where your offerings can be placed.

Reception of Holy Communion

- Holy Communion will be distributed at its normal place during Mass (after the *sign of peace*).
- During the sign of peace, the Eucharistic Ministers will come into the Sanctuary where they will sanitize their hands and line up to receive Holy Communion, as they had normally.
- After receiving Holy Communion, the Eucharistic Ministers will again sanitize their hands prior to distributing Communion to the congregation. They will also wear masks during distribution to the faithful, but not gloves.
- If Ushers are available, they will help dismiss each pew to receive Holy Communion. Otherwise, the Eucharistic Ministers will motion you to come forward and receive. Please maintain social distancing as you come forward and return directly back to your pews.
- We ask that you receive Holy Communion in the hand.
 - You may not wear gloves while receiving, nor receive Holy Communion in a disposable item, such as a cup, tissue or plate.
 - As you approach to receive, keep your mask on until after you have received the Eucharist in your hand, then step to the side, remove your mask and consume our Lord.
 - o If you plan to receive on the tongue, please contact Fr. Peter.
- The Precious Blood will not be distributed at this time.
- If the Eucharistic Minister touches your hand while distributing Holy Communion to you, they will use hand sanitizer before distributing Holy Communion to the next person.



After Mass

- At the end of Mass, the priest and those part of the liturgy, will process out through the main aisle.
- Bulletins can be collected as you leave the church. They are also available online. Please see the parish website for details.
- Additional collection baskets will be available at the entrances. Feel free to drop your envelopes into the baskets as you leave. Please consider online donations if possible.
- Please do not congregate outside the church doors or in the parking lot to visit before or after Mass. We need to be sure that we are following social distancing guidelines if we expect to remain open for public celebrations of the Mass.

