



Sacramental Guidelines for Reopening

“DRIVE-IN MASS”

Parishes should adapt as necessary; however, **be careful not to violate social distancing, face covering and sanitizing practices.**

Parishes or pastors may **not** alter the number of allowed worshippers (between 15 and 20 percent of total capacity of the church as determined by the parish leadership team), social distancing, face covering or sanitizing guidelines.

A system of reservation should be used so that the parish team is able to manage the number of cars and parking spaces.

Preparation

1. Care must be given that the liturgical action can be seen; e.g., the altar, ambo and chair on a platform, and that the liturgy and its parts can be heard.
2. Cars are to be parked a minimum six feet apart. Consider skipping every other parking space and off-setting in alternate rows.
3. Designated parking spaces must be clearly marked. Spaces farther away from the altar should be reserved for larger vehicles which would block the view of smaller vehicles.
4. Only those who domicile together are to be in a car together.
5. Parish agents will need to be present to direct cars and assist parishioners to maintain properly spaced parking.
6. Masks should be worn for the entire service by all, if the windows of the car are open. Per IDPH and CDC guidelines, those with breathing difficulties can be exempted from this requirement, but those individuals must observe the strictest of social distancing from anyone not living in their domicile. Children under the age of two are exempt from wearing face coverings or masks.
7. Even though participants are in cars for the entire service, no one with any illness should be attending.
8. For the distribution of Communion, priest, deacon and all extraordinary ministers are to wear masks and face shields.
9. The use of a choir is prohibited. A cantor and accompanist are allowed.
10. Congregational singing is also prohibited at this time.

For the Celebration of Mass

1. Priest should remind all present to please follow the precautions that are in place including wearing masks when car windows are open, remaining in their cars for the entire service, and sanitizing hands before Communion.
2. For the Liturgy of the Word, readers and the priest can remove their masks.

3. The procession with the gifts is omitted. The gifts are to be on the credence or side table and the priest (or deacon if there is one) can bring them to the altar.
4. For the consecration, the ciborium(ia) containing Hosts for distribution to the faithful should be placed on the side of the corporal – not directly under the priest’s face – in order to avoid any contamination during the Eucharist Prayer.
5. Before the distribution of Communion, the priest and other ministers move to a side table, sanitize their hands and don a face shield. Explain the use of the face shield as a protection for the congregation and the ministers.
6. For the distribution of Communion, an usher, greeter or attendant will need to precede each minister of Communion to offer hand sanitizer immediately before the minister offers the consecrated Host to each individual.

Distribution of Communion

Communion is to be distributed in the following manner.

1. The usher or assistant accompanying each minister precedes to the first car in a row on the driver’s side.
2. Participants on the driver’s side – both front and back seats – wearing masks open their windows and stick their hands palm up outside the window.
3. Assistant sprays hand sanitizer on the hands. Participants clean their hands. The assistant moves to the next car in the row.
4. The minister moves after the assistant to give the Host to the driver and the participant in the rear seat on the driver’s side. Participants remove mask and consume Hosts.
5. Minister moves on to the next car in the row following the assistant and repeats the pattern.
6. After Communion is distributed to those on the driver’s side of the last car in the row, the assistant and the minister begin from the back to offer communion to those on the passenger side of the vehicles in the row following the same procedure.
 - a. **Note:** the paten is not to be given to the family and passed among those in the car.
 - b. The priest or minister will need to go to each window of the car to administer to each person individually.
 - c. Communion is only to be given in the hand.
 - d. No one is to leave their car for distribution of Communion.

Post Rite and Cleaning

1. All liturgical items should be moved to inside the church immediately after the Mass.
2. All liturgical items used during Mass must be sanitized after. All items must be completely clean and dry before reuse.
3. Those cleaning should wear masks and gloves.
4. Greeter or pastor should take an inventory of supplies after the service and replenish accordingly.