

Reopening St. Marcus Catholic Church for Sunday Masses

Overarching Principles

- Recommendations from the CDC, MDH and the Governor's Office will be adhered to as closely as is possible.
- Upholding the dignity of the liturgy will remain a focus as we prepare our celebrations.
- If individuals are feeling ill, they must stay home.
- No more than 60 people which is 25% capacity

Preparing our Space

❖ Entrances

- ✓ Hand sanitizer is available upon entering and exiting the church.
- ✓ Gatherings of people in gathering spaces will be discouraged.
- ✓ Holy Water fonts are empty.
- ✓ The handicapped accessible door to the back parking lot will be open. You can use the button to open it.

❖ Assembly Seating

- ✓ Pews are marked for seating.
- ✓ Physical distancing of six (6) feet will be maintained, except for members of the same household.
- ✓ Members of the liturgical assembly may choose to wear face coverings. These must be removed before the reception of Holy Communion.

Ministers

❖ Priests

- ✓ If the priest has a respiratory illness Mass will be cancelled. Cancellations will be posted on the website and on the doors of the Church
- ✓ The celebrant and other ministers will **not** wear face coverings or gloves during the celebration of the Mass, except (optionally) during the distribution of Holy Communion.
- ✓ The celebrant will sanitize his hands before and after each Mass.

❖ Altar Servers

- ✓ There will not be altar servers at this time.

❖ Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

- ✓ All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion must sanitize hands before and after the distribution of Holy Communion.
- ✓ Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion may wear face coverings during the distribution of Holy Communion if the desire to do so.

❖ Ushers

- ✓ Will not shake hands or offer an embrace to those gathering.
- ✓ All Ushers must sanitize their hands before and after Mass.
- ✓ Encourage the use of hand sanitizer when people enter or exit the church.

- ✓ Ushers will monitor place collection basket on a table near the entrance and monitor it as people place their offering.
- ✓ Ushers will seat people in the pews – must maintain physical distancing of six (6) feet.
- ✓ Assist with indicating when people would enter the procession for the reception of Holy Communion.
- ✓ Ushers will dismiss the people from the pews at the conclusion of Mass much like at a wedding.
- ✓ Ushers will monitor the gathering area and discourage socializing and gathering
- ❖ Sacristans
 - ✓ Sacristans may set up for Mass as usual.
 - ✓ All Sacristans must sanitize their hands before and after handling any vessels, vestments, etc.
- ❖ Lector
 - ✓ Will continue to proclaim the Word of God from the ambo.
 - ✓ Lector will sanitize their hands before and after Mass.
 - ✓ Books and resources for the Lector to review before Mass will be placed on a table outside the sacristy.
- ❖ Music Ministers
 - ✓ No music or singing for the present time
 - ✓ When Music does resume it will be simply a cantor and an accompanist

Order of Mass

- ❖ Mass parts
 - ✓ The adapted norms for the celebration of the Holy Mass as outlined by the Bishop in his letter to pastors dated May 8th will be followed.
- ❖ Communion Procession
 - ✓ There will be one person distributing Holy Communion. Either the priest or his designee
 - ✓ There will be one communion line.
 - ✓ If people are wearing a face covering, they will remove it and leave it in their pew until they have returned from receiving Holy Communion at that time they may put it back on.
 - ✓ You *may not* receive Holy Communion wearing gloves.
 - ✓ People will come forward from back to front down the center aisle. This ensures that people will not have to pass near each other with center of the pews blocked off. The communicant will make a full circle around the Church and back to their original pew. The side aisles will then be dismissed by the Ushers they will proceed down the side aisle to the back of the Church and up the center aisle for reception and then return to their pew.
 - ✓ X's will be placed on the floor in the center aisle to assist people in maintaining distancing.

Additional Requirements/Recommendations

- ✓ Only one entrance will be utilized to monitor amount of people and to limit contact points the parking lot door into the gathering area.
- ✓ Signs will be placed on other doors
- ✓ Hymnals and missalettes are removed from the church.
- ✓ Sanitation of Ambo, utilized pews, hand rails, elevator buttons, and bathroom sink handles will take place after Mass. It will be done by one or two volunteers and/or parish staff or the ushers.
- ✓ Drinking fountain is closed.
- ✓ Bathroom doors will be propped open. Privacy is not compromised here by doing this. "Hwy 24 bathrooms" are closed.
- ✓ Social Hall, Side Chapel, Classrooms, and offices have signs posted indicating that these areas are closed
- ✓ Congregating of people either before or after Mass will be discouraged.