

**We are very eager to welcome you back to public worship at Sacred Heart! As we prepare for the next few weekends, we want you to be aware of the necessary changes we have made, and we want to prepare you for how things will function and look before you arrive.**

1. All those ages 5 & up are required to wear a mask, unless there is a medical reason that precludes a mask. Those ages 2-5 are encouraged to wear masks but it is up to parents' discretion. Those under 2 should not wear a mask. Please be sure to put your mask on when exiting your car or coming onto the property and leave it on until you are back in your car or off the property. Please be sure the mask covers both nose and mouth.
2. As you arrive to church, you may enter (and exit) via the Centre Street doors. You will be guided to the center double doors by an usher. We ask that you arrive no earlier than 30 minutes before Mass, as the door will not open until 20 minutes before the start of Mass. To avoid crowding at the door, you may have to wait in line to enter, including outside.
3. The elevator is to be used by one person OR two members of the same household at a time. If you need the elevator, alert the head usher.
4. When you enter the church, you will notice that there are lots of signs, ushers, and tape to help guide you. Six-foot distancing must be maintained at all times, both inside and outside. You will be seated by an usher and will not be able to choose your pew, so you may not be able to sit in your normal seat.
5. Our initial capacity is 80 people. We hope that everyone who plans to attend will be accommodated, but we will have to turn people away once we reach capacity.
6. Households will be seated 6 feet apart. Those who live together may sit together.
7. The congregation will not be invited to participate in the Sign of Peace or in handholding during the Our Father.
8. There will be no lining up for Communion. Ministers will bring Communion to you in your pew. When the minister arrives:
  - a. Please remain seated and continue to wear your mask while being served.
  - b. All reception must be done in the hand; no reception on the tongue at this time.
    - i. The minister will drop the host reverently and carefully into your cupped hands, rather than touching your hands.
  - c. After the Minister has exited your pew, you may remove your mask to consume the host. You should replace your mask immediately after consuming.
  - d. The Minister of Holy Communion will use hand sanitizer in the event any contact, or perceived contact, occurs, before they serve the next person.
  - e. Neither you nor Ministers of Holy Communion are to wear gloves. It is easier for everyone to clean their hands in the event of accidental touching.
9. There will be no congregational singing. Though it is difficult, please refrain from singing even when wearing a mask. At this time, only the cantor is permitted to sing during Mass.
10. When Mass is dismissed, you will be directed by an usher to exit one pew at a time to prevent crowding at the doors. Please be patient when Mass is over. Once outside, please do not congregate and instead move directly to your car or begin walking home.
11. If anyone notices any perceived safety issue, this person should find staff members Nick Frega or Kate Neal immediately. They will have nametags on.

For the safety of our congregation, if a congregant does not comply with these guidelines, he or she will need to leave the church property.