



**Christ the King Catholic Community
in Carroll County**

christthekingcatholiccommunity.org

St. Bernard Church, Breda – St. John the Baptist Church-Arcadia
St. Elizabeth Seton Church, Glidden – St. Augustine Church, Halbur
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Mount Carmel
Sacred Heart Church, Templeton

**PARISH MASS INTENTION POLICY
Updated April 2020**

1. Celebrating the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for a specific intention is a venerable tradition in the Church. Mass intentions are a form of almsgiving through which parishioners contribute to the good of the Church by supporting her ministers and her works. The efficacy of the Mass is such that it is possible to apply an infinite number of intentions to a Mass, but the priest is obliged to celebrate Mass for one and the only one intention for which he has received a Mass stipend or offering. [Canon 948; Diocesan Policy IV.3.22]
2. A Mass Intention may be **requested** for:
 - 1) A deceased person
 - 2) A living person who is sick or suffering; for their well-being
 - 3) A living person who is celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or other occasion
 - 4) In thanksgiving to God
 - 5) For a specific prayer intention
3. A Mass Intention **may not** be scheduled for:
 - 1) An unknown “special” or “private” intention
 - 2) A prayer intention that contradicts Catholic teaching
4. **The offering for a Mass Intention is customarily \$10.00** and typically included at the time of scheduling, however, no Mass Intention requests will be refused because of financial difficulty. **The Diocese of Sioux city has set \$10.00 as the customary offering as of 1 July 2018.** [Diocesan Policy IV.3.20]
5. **Publication of Mass Intentions** will be done weekly in the parish bulletin. They will be announced during the Welcome/Introduction to the Mass. The intention will not be announced in the Universal Prayers as it is the intention of the presiding priest and Universal Prayers are offered by the people attending the Mass
6. **Requests for a specific intention and on a specific day** may be made in person at the parish offices in Breda, Acadia, or Halbur or by phone call, or by mailing your request with an offering to the pastor. Due to many requests and limited number of Masses at respective parishes, particular dates may not be available so requests will be taken on a first come, first served basis. If one desires to have more Masses offered, the extra intentions and stipends will be sent to retired and/or missionary priests with the permission of the requestor. Requests may not be made for Holy Days, Feast of All Souls, and holidays [i.e. Thanksgiving, All Saints, Christmas, and Easter Sunday] to allow all requestors to have a chance to have their intention on those dates and to allow for



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flexibility of the pastor to assign intentions on those dates based on the schedule of Masses for all the parishes.

7. Following Canon Law and to provide an opportunity for all parishioners to schedule a Mass Intention for their loved ones and to accommodate Mass Intentions for recently deceased individuals, **Mass Intentions are only scheduled for the calendar year.** Due to the limited availability of Masses, **no person/family may schedule more than two weekend and three daily Masses per a calendar year quarter.** Again, if one desires to have more Masses offered during this time period, the extra intentions with their stipends will be sent to retired and/or missionary priests with the permission of the requestor or returned to the requestor.
8. Every effort will be made to accommodate desired dates, times, and church locations, especially with Mass intentions for the recently deceased. However, **the particular day, time, or place that may be preferred may or may not be available.** Requestors are asked to be reasonably flexible in scheduling Mass Intentions as the efficacy of the Mass being celebrated is the same regardless of date, time, or place.
9. Finally, to be compliant with the Code of Canon Law of the Catholic Church, please remember the following:
 - 1) Mass intentions may never be scheduled in advance further than a year from the date they are given.
 - 2) Only one Mass intention will be assigned per Mass.
 - 3) One Mass each Sunday must be celebrated for the intention “Pro Populo” (For the People) by the Pastor of the Parish.

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