

Pandemic Confession Procedure (10 Steps) & Considerations (10 Instructions):

A) Procedure - 10 Steps

- 1) Confessions will be heard by appointment only. Out of respect for your fellow Parishioners and for our Priests, no “walk-ins” will be available, at this time.
- 2) Here at St. Pius X, Confessions will be heard on Tuesday mornings, from 10:00AM - 12:00PM, and Thursday mornings, from 10:00AM - 12:00PM. Should you wish to go to Confession on a different day, or at a different time, please refer to the other locations throughout the area: [Eastside Deanery Confession Schedule](#), or the [Diocesan Confession Schedule](#).
- 3) To make an appointment, call the St. Pius X Parish Office (614-866-2859) from 9:00AM - 4:00PM. You need not give your name, but please *do* provide a phone number, in case the priest is called away for an emergency and needs to reschedule. If no one is available to take your call, please leave a message, stating your wish to make an appointment for Confession, and your phone number (again, you do not need to give your name). Someone from the Parish Office will return your call, as soon as possible. **All appointments will be made on a first-come, first-served basis.**
- 4) Appointments are scheduled to allow for a **maximum of FIVE minutes per Confession**, to protect the health and safety of all involved, and to allow for as many Confessions as possible.
- 5) All Confessions will be held in the Msgr. Funk Parish Family Center, Room A. (Signs will be posted with directions.) You will enter through the east-facing doors - that is, the set of doors located directly-opposite the main doors to the church. (In order to protect the privacy of each Confession, no other entry will be open, during this time.)
- 6) All Confessions will be anonymous, with the Priest standing and facing away-from the door of Room A. Per social-distancing, please stand within the square marked-out on the floor.
- 7) All Confessions are to be held in a strictly “touch-free” environment, therefore no chairs, tables, books, tissues, or papers will be available.
- 8) For a variety of reasons (i.e., time constraints, privacy of Confessions, health/safety, etc.) the restrooms will also not be accessible, at this time. Please plan accordingly.
- 9) If you wish, you may bring the Diocesan Guidelines entitled [“A Guide for Making Your Confession During These Extraordinary Times”](#) or your own “Cheat Sheet.”
- 10) Once you have received Absolution from the Priest, please return to your vehicle and fulfill your Penance at home. (While the Diocese does hope to provide access to our church buildings in the near future, there are currently no immediate plans to do so.)

B) Considerations - 10 Instructions

- 1) If you are in the “High-Risk” category, you are encouraged to wait for a better/safer opportunity, in the future, once the COVID-19 pandemic subsides. (Please see “[Still Unable to Go to Confession?](#)”)
- 2) If you are (or may possibly be)...
 - a) Sick with anything contagious (whether it is COVID-19, or not);
 - b) Showing signs of COVID-19 (dry cough, body aches);
 - c) Measuring a fever over 100 degrees;...then you should reschedule your appointment.
- 3) You should be prepared to have your temperature taken, by a parish volunteer - using a “no-touch” thermometer - at your entry into the Msgr. Funk Parish Family Center.
- 4) You are asked to do your preparation for Confession *at home*, prior to your arrival. Please do not arrive any earlier than five minutes prior to your appointment.
- 5) Upon arrival, please wait in your car until your appointment time arrives, and follow the posted signs and/or the parish volunteer’s directions.
- 6) Please wear a face-mask to your appointment, and sanitize your hands before Confession. Only remove your face-mask once you have returned to your vehicle.
- 7) Since both you *and* the Priest will be wearing masks, and since there will need to be at least six-feet between each of you, these Confessions will require using both a louder voice and effective hearing. Therefore, if you use any type of hearing-assistance, please be sure it is working correctly, before coming to your appointment.
- 8) Please be assured that this location has been specifically chosen (and prepared) to protect your health, the privacy of your Confession, and the sanctity of the Sacrament.
- 9) Please keep your Confession brief and to the point: Each appointment is limited to FIVE minutes, and no more. (If you should need pastoral counseling or spiritual direction, you are asked to call the Parish Office, to make a phone appointment, at a different time.)
- 10) Once your FIVE minute Confession is finished, you are asked to exit Room A, to proceed directly to your vehicle, and to fulfill their Penance at home. Any type of congregating or socializing in the parking lot is to be avoided, at this time.

***Thank you for your understanding, patience, and cooperation,
during this exceptional and challenging time. God bless you!***