



## St. Mary Parish

340 North Main Street • Hudson, Ohio 44236 • (330) 653-8118 • [www.stmaryhudson.cc](http://www.stmaryhudson.cc)

Dear Parents,

Please be assured of our prayers for you as you schedule your child's baptism during this pandemic. We are pleased to offer the following guidelines to assist with your planning. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions as you are making your arrangements:

<b>Fr. Lawrence Jurcak</b> , Pastor	<a href="mailto:frjurcak@stmaryhudson.cc">frjurcak@stmaryhudson.cc</a>	330.653.8118 x230
<b>Fr. Scott Goodfellow</b> , Parochial Vicar	<a href="mailto:frscott@stmaryhudson.cc">frscott@stmaryhudson.cc</a>	330.653.8118 x222
<b>Dc. Carl Winterich</b> , Deacon	<a href="mailto:deaconcarl@stmaryhudson.cc">deaconcarl@stmaryhudson.cc</a>	
<b>Michael Schwark</b> , Pastoral Associate	<a href="mailto:mschwark@stmaryhudson.cc">mschwark@stmaryhudson.cc</a>	330.653.8118 x254
<b>Lynn Hourigan</b> , Administrative Assistant	<a href="mailto:lhourigan@stmaryhudson.cc">lhourigan@stmaryhudson.cc</a>	330.653.8118 x221

### Baptism Preparation

If this is your first child and you have not completed a baptism preparation program, you are asked to please contact Michael Schwark ([mschwark@stmaryhudson.cc](mailto:mschwark@stmaryhudson.cc)). He will assist you in completing that preparation. Families who have already had a child baptized do not need any additional preparation.

### Scheduling

Please ensure that your baptism preparation has been completed and your godparent(s) have obtained a sponsor certificate from the parish at which they are registered. Given the need to sanitize the church after Mass, we can accommodate baptisms on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays of each month at 2:00 p.m. When scheduling the baptism, please indicate the number of guests you anticipate will be present. Please understand there may be a maximum of three (3) other families scheduled at the same time. Contact Lynn Hourigan ([lhourigan@stmaryhudson.cc](mailto:lhourigan@stmaryhudson.cc)) to schedule your child's baptism.

### Baptism Guidelines

- We will ensure the church is properly sanitized prior to your arrival.
- Please arrive no more than 20 minutes prior to the service time and enter through the main church doors.
- All guests must sanitize their hands upon entering the building.
- All guests over age 2 must wear a face mask or other face covering over their nose and mouth upon entering the building and keep it on for the entire service to prevent droplets and particulates from spreading. The parish will supply face masks for those who do not have one.
- Guests can be seated throughout the church, remembering to maintain 6-foot social distanced seating between individuals/households. Guests are asked to refrain from congregating in the aisles or around the baptism font.
- You may ask one (1) person to video/livestream the ceremony close to the font while maintaining social distance.
- For the baptism of your child:
  - Fresh water will be poured directly from a pitcher onto the child's head and collected in a bowl in the baptismal font basin. This water will be poured directly into the ground after the baptisms and not reused for any purpose. A parent or godparent should plan to hold the child to be baptized over the font.
  - A separate towel will be used for wiping off excess water from each child's head.
  - The Oil of Sacred Chrism will be administered with a cotton swab.
  - A parent/godparent may assist with the Clothing with a White Garment and Lighting of the Candle.
- Social distancing must be respected while exiting the church. Guests should exit the church immediately after the ceremony without stopping in the church or narthex to facilitate everyone moving out of the church.
- Pictures with your immediate family may be taken in the church after the ceremony and outside on the parish property. Please be prepared to exit the church no later than 20 minutes after the ceremony to ensure our parish staff has adequate time to clean and sanitize the church before the 5:30 pm Mass.
- It is customary to provide an offering to the cleric who presided over the baptism at the end of the ceremony.

Revised June 4, 2020