



**ST. CLARE**  
**OF MONTEFALCO**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

# Returning to Weekend Mass

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## Protocol for the Celebration Of Weekend Masses at St. Clare

### Arrival and Entrance

- Face coverings/masks are to be worn by the faithful (over the age of two) in and around the church.
- Physical distancing will be practiced in the church and on the church property.
- Signs will be posted on the doors of the church indicating which ones are to be used for the entry.
- Tables will be at the entrances with gloves, masks, and sanitizers for people to use if they want.
- The Austin Portico and Holy Family Chapel doors will be open for all to enter the church. This allows us to properly seat parishioners, all other doors will be closed.
- All doors will be available for exit from the building.
- Ushers or Greeters will welcome you and guide you to your place of seating. You are welcome to put on gloves and grab the cleaning supplies to clean your space.
- We will seat from the front going to the back of the church. There will be a reserved seating for EM. Please follow the instructions of the ushers, in order to maintain the physical distancing, you may not be seated in your usual pew.

### Music

- Music is a form of prayer and is an important component of our liturgical celebrations. There will be an organist and cantor at our weekend liturgies.
- Our red hymnals have been removed from the pews; we will use songs that are familiar for all of us.

### Mass

- There will be no processions from the back of church to begin the Mass
- Lectors and cantors will be at their space prior to the Mass.
- The priest and deacon will enter the sanctuary through the sacristy or side entrance.

### Liturgy of the Word

- One lector to proclaim the readings, the prayers of the faithful, and announcements
- The Cantor will sing the Psalm and Alleluia.
- The deacon will proclaim the Gospel
- The priest or deacon will present the homily.

### Offertory

- There will not be pew by pew collection for your monetary donation.
- Collection points will be available for you to drop in your offerings: as you enter the church through Austin Portico and Holy Family Chapel and at the Baptismal font.
- Two Ushers will collect the baskets with donations and after the Mass take the collection to the sacristy
- There will be no offertory procession, the hosts and wine will be on the altar.
- The invitation to exchange the Sign of Peace is suspended.

## Holy Communion

- There will be no Precious Blood distribution.
- Remove any masks and gloves as you approach the minister.
- Follow the marking on the floor in your line to receive Holy Communion that ensures proper distancing.
- There will be a different pattern of approaching the minister which will be explained before the Mass.
- Two Eucharist Ministers will be located at the Baptismal font for distribution to those seated in the rear sections
- There will be distribution at four locations in the front of the church
- The reverence and the verbal exchange should take place 6' from the minister in this format: **Bow** – “The Body of Christ” – “**Amen**” – then step forward to receive.
- Although everyone has a right to receive Holy Communion on the tongue –**we strongly encourage all to receive** Holy Communion on your hand. Receiving Holy Communion on the tongue could cause concern about spreading droplets to the fingers of the minister via breath.
- Those requiring this form of reception will be able to receive Holy Communion following the conclusion of the Mass.
- Low-gluten hosts will be available at all stations.

## Dismissal and Recessional

- Following the closing hymn Ushers and Greeters will dismiss the congregation pew by pew.
- All doors will be open to exit the church.
- Before leaving the church, please use the cleaning supplies to clean the area where you sat and had contact with the pews. Remember to dispose of waste properly.
  - Please be mindful of the 6' physical distancing as you leave the church and in the parking

