

Confession Guidelines:

In order to maintain social distancing and to avoid having people touching door handles and seats, etc. confession will be offered as follows:

Anyone interested in going to confession in the coming weeks should:

- 1) Call our scheduler, Karen Meier, at **740-708-0073**. She has the list of days and times that Father Beal will be available for confession in the next 2 weeks. She will then assign you to a 5-minute slot. This is not a time for pastoral counseling. You would just confess your sins and then receive penance and absolution. If you would like pastoral counseling you can call the office and leave a message, and we can set up a phone call for that later.
- 2) For confession, we ask that you please wear a mask. Also, please take your temperature before coming and do not come if it is over 100.4 degrees. On the day and the time of your appointment, you should arrive at the church hall, by parking out front on the street. You will see a blue X near the steps. If no one is standing there, you may get out and wait on the X. If someone is already waiting there, please remain in your car. You will notice that the doors are propped open so that you do not need to touch anything. There will be an assistant there to help facilitate and direct you to the X to await your turn if you are next. You should NOT show up more than five minutes early for your appointment as we want to avoid confusion, or any line forming, which would conflict with social distancing. If you are in your car, watch for the current confessee to completely exit the hall and to get in their car, and the person waiting to enter the building, then get out of your car and wait on the X near the steps. Again, there will be an assistant there to help if needed.
- 3) When you are next in line standing on the X and you see the person come out of the building and clear completely from the ramp area, you will then go up the ramp into the hall. You should try not to touch anything. Once inside, Father will be on the right side- up in the old classroom area facing away from you. Near the coffee table area, there will be an X marking the spot, six feet from away, where you will stand to make your confession. You are asked to please wear a mask. Father will also be wearing a mask. By default then no confessions will be face-to-face. Also, if you are worried about anonymity, please know that Father will not be seeing the list of who is coming to confession, only Karen will have that information.
- 4) Please note you will be asked by Karen for your phone number when you call. This is so that if Father is experiencing a fever or a cough, she can call you to let you know that the confessions have been cancelled as a precaution. In a similar way, if you have a fever or a cough or such the day of your appointment, please cancel it as a precaution. To that end, please take your temperature before coming and do not come if it is over 100.4 degrees.
- 5) Confession Examinations of Conscience will be available near the X outside, but if you take one, please take it home or discard it in the trashcan in the hall when you are finished. . Ideally- prepare ahead. [HERE is an online Examination of Conscience](#) & Bishop Brennan has one [HERE](#).