



DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH

Guidelines for the Celebration of Mass and Other Liturgical Celebrations

As we recommend liturgical gatherings, all must be mindful of and follow the established guidelines as follows:

- Safe Environment Guidelines
 - Youth Ministry Guidelines
 - Health Safety Guidelines – as follows
1. Masks are optional for those attending Mass.
 2. Social distancing of church's worship space should be arranged to maintain 3 feet between persons and/or families -side to side and front to back. If persons of the same household are seated closer together, total occupancy is not to exceed the church capacity.
 3. Holy Water fonts at church entrances may be filled and used at the judgment of parishioners. The fonts should be drained at least weekly and replaced with fresh Holy Water.
 4. Hymnals and other liturgical books may be used.
 5. Choirs are permitted as long as social distancing of 3 feet is maintained among members.
 6. Collection plates may be passed among the pews. It is recommended to use collection baskets that are extended on a pole.
 7. Pews and hard surfaces should be sanitized at the start and at the end of every Sunday or other day in which the church sanctuary is in use.
 8. In accord with the rubrics of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal, the invitation to the liturgical assembly to share a sign of peace is left to the discretionary judgment of the priest-celebrant.
 9. Holy Communion may be distributed either in the hand or on the tongue. Ordinary and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion must sanitize their hands appropriately.
 10. In an abundance of safety, ordinary and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion are required to sanitize hands and to wear masks while distributing Holy Communion.
 11. Holy Communion will only be distributed as consecrated hosts. There is to be no distribution of consecrated wine from chalices.

THE CATHOLIC CENTER