

GENERAL CHANGES IN MASS DURING THE PANDEMIC

Social distancing limits the number of people we can fit in the church and Parish Center. To control this, we will be issuing tickets. **If you are scheduled for a liturgy, your ticket is guaranteed.** Other **family members will need to get a ticket** at our website, <https://www.stviator.org/>.

Everyone is expected to **wear a mask throughout Mass** except when speaking at a microphone.

There is no longer the opportunity to sit in the same place each time you attend; everyone will be seated from the front to the back. (See note about Lectors, below.)

Mass is streamlined, more like weekday than Sunday Mass. There are no Altar Servers. All the rooms off the foyer except the restrooms are closed; likewise for the votive candles. There will be limited singing.

You will **check in** at the ticket table. Let them know you are the Lector or a scheduled EM and you may enter without a ticket.

Please note that the procedures may change – keep an eye on your email, including the Junk Mail folder.

EMs

- There is **no Principal Eucharistic Minister (1C)**. Father will prepare the ciboria and everything will be on the altar as Mass begins. He will also clean them.
- Communion will be in the form of **bread only**. The number of **EMs** needed per Mass is **just two right now**.
- **Communion will be distributed by the doors** as the congregation will exit immediately after receiving the Host or a blessing. For now, we are using the south and north doors (by the choir and baptistry) and the doors where you enter the main body of the church. One EM is assigned by the north door – the one closest to the baptismal font – the other one will be on the right side by the entrance.
- If we have an overflow crowd, they will be seated in the **Parish Center**, where the Mass is projected on a huge screen with a great sound system.
- **The “Lamb of God” will be spoken, not sung.** Enter the sanctuary at this time. Sanitize your hands at the table directly behind the altar.
- Once in the **sanctuary**, be careful to **distance yourself** from one another.
- **Safety Volunteers will guide the congregation to you** and provide sanitizer to each communicant.
- To provide distancing, you will **stand behind one end of a table**, the communicant at the other.
- When you get to your table, sanitize your hands again.
- Even more important than before, **do not touch anyone with a blessing**.
- **Gently drop the Host** into the communicant’s hands.
- **If you accidentally touch someone**, use the sanitizer at your table.
- When you are finished, **take your ciborium to the tabernacle**.
- **EMs in the Parish Center** will distribute in the back, by the inner doors. The tables are set up and Safety Volunteers will help guide you.



LECTORS

- There is **only one Lector per liturgy**.
- You will **sit in the choir area** to allow quick access to the ambo. (There will be limited Choir members.) You do NOT have to go to the front of the sanctuary before going to the ambo – reverence by the handrail and enter there.
- You **will NOT process in or out**. Father alone will enter from the rear sacristy.
- After you **proclaim the first reading**, sit in the chair behind the ambo in the sanctuary. **The Cantor will proclaim the Responsorial Psalm**, then you will **return to the ambo to proclaim the 2nd reading** (epistle).
- Do NOT put the binder under the ambo since it will be used further.
- If Deacon Mike is assisting with Mass, he will read the Intentions (“Lord hear our prayer”).
If he is not at Mass, you will **return to the ambo** during the renewal of Baptismal vows (these replace the Creed, following the homily) **for the Intentions**. You need to be at the ambo, ready to go, when Father ends the vows.
- **During the “Our Father,” return to the ambo**. At the end of the Sign of Peace, read the Communion announcement in the plastic sheet.