

Parishioner Guidelines and Protocols

Since this pandemic has rocked our nation and world, protocols and procedures have been constantly changing and we are most welcoming the opportunity to get back to some normalcy and begin public Masses. Below are the new guidelines, procedures and protocols which pertain to our parish, parishioners and guests. When changes need to be made to these procedures, we will convey them to you ASAP. We are doing our very best to not only accommodate every parishioner and guest, but most importantly keep everyone safe and healthy. We thank you for your continued prayers, support and devotion to St. Therese of Lisieux Parish.

- Do NOT enter if you have a Fever, Cough or Shortness of Breath.
- Please wear a mask at all times, unless under the age of 2.
- Social distancing of 6 feet is required at all times, unless with family. Families are permitted to sit with each other.
- To save resources we have lowered the heat and as it gets warmer we will not have the AC on as frequently. We will however have the HVAC blowers on to facilitate air circulation. Please dress in layers.
- The number of people allowed in the church is limited, per government guidelines.
- Church pews are marked as to where to sit. Please find a seat closest to the Altar, so we can facilitate the best use of our space.
- Wash hands and/or use sanitizer prior to entering church.
- Throughout the Mass the presider will be giving instructions on how to proceed, ie offertory, distribution of Holy Communion, dismissal from Mass, etc.
- We have suspended the food basket during Mass, however we encourage parishioners to still bring food donations in, just leave them by the parish office doors.
- The collection basket will not be passed around, please place your Sunday offering in the designated baskets near the entrances, inside the church.

Parishioner Guidelines and Protocols Continued

- Holy Communion will be brought to you, in your pew.
- Refrain from handshaking or touching of individuals.
- Before the final blessing the presider will request one person from each pew assist in
 disinfecting their pew and the open pew directly in front of them. Please designate one
 person from your pew to accomplish this and begin disinfecting once your pew is called
 to leave by the usher.
- The disinfecting process is simple. Take the spray bottle and spray on the pew and wipe with the paper towel provided. Gloves are also available near the spray bottle. The process has been tested and will take less than 5 minutes.
- Trash recepticals are located in the rear of the church for you to throw your paper towels and gloves away. Please place the spray bottle on the opposite end of where you began, so we know the pew was disinfected.
- Ushers will dismiss pews when Mass is over. Please exit towards the center of the church. Overflow areas will be dismissed first and then dismissal will occur from the back of the church first, working towards the Altar.
- To maintain social distancing, please do not linger in the gathering space. If you would like to talk with friends, please do so in the parking lot.
- Please follow guidance from Staff and Ushers at all times.
- Minimize church office visits. Maintain social distancing, and as contactless as possible.