



## Policy Regarding Mass Outside of a Church Building

[ Owner: Office of Worship ]

1. Since pastors have the right and obligation to provide for the pastoral care of those within their territories, Masses celebrated publicly by a priest outside of a church *and* outside of his territorial assignment, even within the diocese, must be cleared, even if orally, with the pastor in whose territory the celebration is occurring. If it involves a Sunday or a Holy Day of Obligation, then permission from the Local Ordinary is required.
2. A priest who is retired, ill, convalescing, on vacation, or on his day off may celebrate Mass for his immediate family and/or close friends in a suitable place outside the church building (e.g. a home) on any day of the week, provided that the group is small.