



UPDATED Guidelines for Mass Attendance
(as of May 21, 2021)

State's COVID Response Plan
- Bridge Phase -

As we enter into the Bridge Phase of the State's COVID response plan, the Diocese of Joliet has issued the following new guidelines for attending mass:

- Masks, hand sanitizer and advance registration will still be required for the immediate future.
- The use of hymnals and congregational singing is still not allowed.
- There is no in-pew exchange of peace by the congregation.
- Social distancing will no longer be required at most masses, though we will still offer a safe seating, social distancing mass at 10:00 am every Sunday.
- Attendance limits at masses will be increased to 250 people per mass, except the 10:00 am mass, where the current limit will remain in place.

Advance registration provides benefits such as assuring that the mass you choose to attend is not over capacity, as well as easier check-in and accurate record keeping (note: registration lists will be destroyed after 14 days).

Those with internet capability are asked to use the "Sign-up Genius" platform (a link can be found on the parish website at www.stpeteritasca.com). Please sign up for an available mass time and indicate the number of family members in your group. With our current capacity of 250 attendees, the sign-up will provide 220 slots, allowing 30 slots for those who are unable to sign-up online (NOTE: The 10am Sunday mass will remain at 150 capacity for those who prefer safe/socially-distanced seating). Anyone unable to register on-line is asked to call the Parish Center at 630-773-1272 (x200) to make their request.

For the safety of our parish community, the following precautions will continue to be observed at all times:

- Prior to coming to church, please take a moment to go through a health protocol self-checklist (fever, shortness of breath, cough); if you experience any symptoms, please stay home.
- Those most susceptible to contracting COVID-19 by virtue of age, medical condition or other vulnerability should not attend the in-person Mass.
- Maximum seating capacity for the church at this time is 250.
- Please arrive to Mass early to allow for check-in – or sign-in at the door if you are not pre-registered.
- You must sanitize your hands upon entering the church. We will have sanitizers at the doorway.
- You must wear a mask or face covering upon entering and for the duration of your time inside.
- Please follow the guidance of the ministers present who will direct you, seat you, or answer questions.
- Between Masses our worship space will be sanitized and prepared for future use.
- There will not be worship aids or hymnals in the pews.
- There will be no handshake of peace.
- Follow directions of the usher to receive communion.
- Ushers will provide hand sanitizer upon exiting pews prior to receiving Communion.
- Communion will be distributed in the hand only; The Cup is discontinued indefinitely.
- After receiving Communion, step to the side, remove your mask and consume the precious host, then re-secure your mask before returning to your seat.
- If you are fearful or have any reluctance to return to Sunday observance at this time, you should not do so – the dispensation from the Sunday obligation remains in place indefinitely.

Please remember that this is an evolving process requiring patience and cooperation so that we may joyously continue our communal celebration of the Holy Mass. As things continue to change, please continue to monitor the parish website and email communications for updates or call the parish center with any questions or concerns.

Finally, should you find that you have tested positive for Covid-19 after having attended Mass or being on the parish campus, please contact Deacon Fred Maier at (ext 201) or Fr. Noesen (ext. 208). Rest assured that anonymity will be maintained for anyone reporting positive test results. However, it is critically important for everyone's well-being to be able to alert others whose attendance might coincide with someone testing positive.