

Physical Spaces

Indoor

1. No indoor Confirmations are permitted at this time.
2. No church building, permanent or temporary, including the parish hall, school classrooms, school and parish offices may be used for any Confirmation.

Outdoor

1. Provide sufficient on-site security to ensure maximum safety of parishioners during outdoor services; ushers should not serve in both capacities.
2. Designate an usher/volunteer to oversee a first aid kit, including sufficient bottles of water, should an emergency arise due to summer heat. Ensure that the usher/volunteer possesses a cell phone to Dial 911, should it be necessary.
3. Ensure outdoor attendees do not exceed 100 persons maximum at each service.
4. Use of parish parking lot is permitted only for the seating and spacing of congregants; attendees may not remain in vehicles while attending Mass nor receiving communion.
5. Provide outdoor water misting systems if possible; utilize either PVC piping or appropriate rubber hosing, which can be permanently affixed to building eaves. Do not affix misting systems to portable canopies, tents, Eazy-Ups, etc.
6. Maintain social distancing between all attendees of six (6) ft. minimum, except those that reside in the same household, by spacing chairs/seating six (6) ft. apart. If benches are used for seating, mark them as you would the church pews by taping seating areas six (6) ft. apart, ensuring all seating is stationed on flat surfaces.
7. Require face masks at all times, by all attendees, with the exception of those under two years of age and younger.
8. Ensure that sanitizing teams are in place and scheduled to sanitize chairs, tables, benches, or any other outdoor hard surface used during each outdoor service.
9. Allocate sufficient time between outdoor services for cleaning and disinfecting.
10. Mark the flow of traffic to the outdoor area, by taping or posting six (6) ft. spacings wherever possible by utilizing standing signage posts, tripods, or other stationary devices, including but not limited to safety cones, guard ropes, or colored safety tape.
11. Configure parking spaces to ensure six (6) ft. separation by closing or marking every other space.
12. Install outdoor portable restrooms, if possible; if not, ensure that interior building restrooms are closely monitored and thoroughly sanitized after each use.
13. Close all exterior drinking water fountains and any decorative outdoor water elements.
14. Install sun canopies, portable tents, Easy-Ups, or similar portable overhead protections; such enclosures must be open for full air circulation on at least two sides. Ensure that all installations are securely anchored.
15. Post signs in highly visible locations (e.g., entrances, exits, foyers) reminding congregants of social distancing requirements; incorporate non-slip yellow tape in areas where trip and falls may be an issue.
16. Post signs in all restrooms, including any portables used that describe proper handwashing, sanitizing, and personal hygiene practices.
17. No outdoor fans or air circulating devices are permitted.

Pastoral Directives

1. Confirmations are encouraged to be administered within the Mass; however, in cases of pastoral necessity, including situations of extreme heat, confirmations may be administered outside the Celebration of the Eucharist.
2. Follow the pastoral directives for Masses outdoors, except omit the Gloria. Replace the Sprinkling Rite with the Penitential Rite.
3. All attendees, including candidates and sponsors, must wear masks at all times. Given the potential of closer contact between candidates, sponsors and presiders, it is recommended that temperatures be taken of all attendees, prior to being seated.
4. Priest/deacon must wear face mask or face shield during the entire Confirmation, including during the Celebration of the Eucharist.
5. Seat candidates and sponsors prior to the beginning of Mass; do not include candidates and sponsors in any entrance procession.
6. Select shortest route for entrance procession to the altar; avoid processing down long center aisles or through congregant seating.
7. Ensure that candidates and sponsors observe the six (6) ft. social distancing; do not seat them next to each other, since they do not reside in the same household. Consider seating the candidate on the aisle and the sponsor on a chair or on the bench six (6) ft. apart.
8. Form one line within the center aisle for the anointing procession; maintain six (6) ft. separation between candidates and sponsors, as they approach the Bishop/priest for the Confirmation rite.
9. Candidates are presented to the Bishop/priest after the Gospel. The pastor or his designee presents the candidate, when the Bishop or his designee presides. If the pastor or his designee presides, the candidates may be presented by the parish DCM or CCM.
10. Upon reaching the Bishop/priest, direct the sponsor to one side of the candidate, maintaining six (6) ft. separation at all times; request the sponsor to then turn and face the candidate. The sponsor will not be permitted to place the right hand on the right shoulder of the candidate, at this time.
11. Direct the candidate to hold his/her Confirmation card so that it can be read by the Bishop/priest. After the anointing, the newly confirmed retains the confirmation card.
12. The Bishop/priest confirms the candidate by dipping a cotton ball into the Sacred Chrism and anointing the candidate on the forehead, while pronouncing the words of the sacrament. The cotton ball should then be placed in a container to be appropriately disposed of later. Only one cotton ball may be used per candidate.
13. If preferred, place a waist-high table/TV tray adjacent to the Bishop/priest upon which the Sacred Chrism and cotton balls may be placed. The Bishop/priest may utilize two bowls/containers: one for the used and one for the unused cotton ball, which he may retrieve directly, without assistance.
14. Direct the newly confirmed and sponsor to return to their respective seats after the anointing, observing six (6) ft. social distancing.
15. Extend the Greeting of Peace after the anointing without any physical touching; no handshake, no embrace, etc.
16. Permit instrumental music as congregants arrive, during anointing, communion and the recessional; music may be provided by musicians or previously recorded and broadcasted electronically.

17. No cantors, choirs, or congregant singing of any kind is permitted at this time; however, previously recorded worship singing may be broadcasted.
18. Allow musical instruments, except woodwind or brass, which generate air particles.
19. Allow flowers to be placed at, not on the altar.
20. No open flame candles are permitted outdoors; LED candles may be used.
21. Avoid all physical contact before, during and after Confirmation services between and among guests; no handshaking, no embracing, etc.
22. Due to current COVID circumstances, Bishop/priest/deacon will not be available for photographs after Confirmation Mass.

7/20/20 01:59 PM

Physical Spaces

Indoor

No indoor private devotions are permitted at this time.

No church building, permanent or temporary, including the parish hall, school classrooms, school and parish offices may be used for any private devotion.

Outdoor

1. Provide sufficient on-site security to ensure maximum safety of parishioners during outdoor services; ushers should not serve in both capacities.
2. Designate an usher/volunteer to oversee a first aid kit, including sufficient bottles of water, should an emergency arise due to summer heat. Ensure that the usher/volunteer possesses a cell phone to Dial 911, should it be necessary.
3. Ensure outdoor attendees do not exceed 100 persons maximum at each service.
4. Use of parish parking lot is permitted only for the seating and spacing of congregants; attendees may not remain in vehicles while attending private devotion.
5. Provide outdoor water misting systems if possible; utilize either PVC piping or appropriate rubber hosing, which can be permanently affixed to building eaves. Do not affix misting systems to portable canopies, tents, Eazy-Ups, etc.
6. Maintain social distancing between all attendees of six (6) ft. minimum, except those that reside in the same household, by spacing chairs/seating six (6) ft. apart. If benches are used for seating, mark them as you would the church pews by taping seating areas six (6) ft. apart, ensuring all seating is stationed on flat surfaces.
7. Require face masks at all times, by all attendees, with the exception of those under two years of age and younger.
8. Ensure that sanitizing teams are in place and scheduled to sanitize chairs, tables, benches, or any other outdoor hard surface used during each outdoor service.
9. Allocate sufficient time between outdoor services for cleaning and disinfecting.
10. Mark the flow of traffic to the outdoor area, by taping or posting six (6) ft. spacings wherever possible by utilizing standing signage posts, tripods, or other stationary devices, including but not limited to safety cones, guard ropes, or colored safety tape.
11. Configure parking spaces to ensure six (6) ft. separation by closing or marking every other space.
12. Install outdoor portable restrooms, if possible; if not, ensure that interior building restrooms are closely monitored and thoroughly sanitized after each use.
13. Close all exterior drinking water fountains and any decorative outdoor water elements.
14. Install sun canopies, portable tents, Easy-Ups, or similar portable overhead protections; such enclosures must be open for full air circulation on at least two sides. Ensure that all installations are securely anchored.
15. Post signs in highly visible locations (e.g., entrances, exits, foyers) reminding congregants of social distancing requirements; incorporate non-slip yellow tape in areas where trip and falls may be an issue.
16. Post signs in all restrooms, including any portables used that describe proper handwashing, sanitizing, and personal hygiene practices.
17. No outdoor fans or air circulating devices are permitted.

Pastoral Directives

1. Post the days and times when outdoor “prayer canopies” may be used for private prayer and devotion, including formal novenas and the saying of the rosary.
2. Utilize online registration for scheduling, to ensure the 100 person maximum occupancy.
3. Post signage limiting individual prayer/devotion time to 20 minutes, if demand dictates.
4. Direct individuals to designated seats that have been marked for personal prayer.
5. Mark seats to maintain a six (6) ft. physical distance, ensuring each seat is sanitized thoroughly after individual departs.
6. Utilize every other row of seats, if more feasible for spacing of guests, cleaning, and sanitizing.
7. Request attendees to refrain from touching/kissing any religious image/statue, which has been relocated from the church for use during private prayer/devotional service. Place a sign in front of religious images, noting that the image is not to be touched.
8. Permit instrumental music as parishioners arrive; music must be previously recorded and broadcasted electronically. No live musicians are permitted for this type of service.
9. No cantors, choirs, or congregant singing of any kind is permitted at this time; however, previously recorded worship singing may be broadcasted electronically, if appropriate for the specific devotion.
10. No personal/private candles are permitted outdoors, at any time; LED candles may be used.
11. Post sign/instructions in advance, indicating no flowers allowed at this time; a donation box for a parish flower fund may be placed in a strategic location for this purpose.
12. Assign an ‘on-site’ monitor/coordinator to ensure that these private prayer/devotional guidelines are followed, and to ensure directives for Physical Spaces are carefully monitored.

7/20/20 11:16 am