

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN COMING TO CHURCH during COVID-19

All guidelines are subject to change

The Bishop's office, in collaboration with the Governor's office and the Department of Health, has communicated returning to Mass in time of COVID-19. These guidelines give us a structure as public celebrations resume. Please be patient with all involved as we begin this new journey together.

Saint Joseph and Saint Patrick will follow the Summer Schedule for Weekend Masses Saturdays 4 pm at Saint Joseph, Sundays 8 am St. Joseph; 10 AM St. Patrick (except May 31st 10 AM will be held at St. Joseph Church)

Bishop Tobin has extended the dispensation to the faithful from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation in the Diocese of Providence until further notice

BEFORE LEAVING HOME

Access to Mass will be limited to 25% of the fire code. St. Patrick will be able to hold 90 members and St. Joseph 137. If a Mass has reached this number or if the space allotted has been filled, trained volunteers will inform those still in line or arriving late to attend the next Mass or watch the Mass online.

Please stay home if you have any signs of illness, have underlying health conditions or vulnerable to risk of infection. Again the measure of attending Mass is about your health. If you have any symptoms, please stay home and join us by visiting our YouTube page: St. Joseph & St. Patrick Burrillville, RI or in person when you are healthy.

Please wear a mask covering nose and mouth

ARRIVING TO EITHER CHURCH BUILDING

Music books and missalettes have been removed from the pews until further notice

There will be one entrance to either church when you arrive. Doors will be propped open. All doors will be propped open upon exiting the church.

Hospitality volunteers will be guiding and leading you upon arrival

Please arrive early to give extra time for entering the church. Doors plan to be propped open ½ hour prior to the start of Mass. If a line forms outside, please stand 6 feet apart. Maintain 6 feet from those not in your household

Offertory and budget envelopes will be collected when you arrive. Baskets will not be passed out during the Mass. Please place all collection envelopes and offerings in

the security bag provided. Please visit either website to sign up with our online Parish Giving. Empty envelopes will be available to ensure that the offering will be applied to the intended collection.

Sanitizing your hands on arrival. Holy Water fonts will be empty until further notice

Lighting of votive candles will be suspended until further notice

Singing will be limited; many parts of the Mass will be recited.

Volunteers will direct you to your seat. Seating will start from the front near the altar to the back near the entrance. Thank you for your understanding as these new guidelines are in place. Please be ready to celebrate Mass through another viewpoint from where you are accustomed to seating.

The offertory procession and sign of peace will be omitted during the Mass

The celebrating Priest will give direction for receiving Holy Communion. At this time, only the priest will distribute Holy Communion. NOTE: gloves are not permitted for use while receiving Holy Communion.

EXITING EITHER CHURCH BUILDING

Volunteers will dismiss beginning with the back and moving towards the altar. All Doors to the building will be open by the time the Mass comes to the final blessing. Please make an orderly exit when a hospitality volunteer dismisses the pew.

Please do not congregate in or outside either church

Once everyone has left, volunteers will sanitize all touched surfaces in preparation for the next celebration.

This is new for all of us. Thank you in advance for your patience. Thank you to all who have assisted in these preparations to return to public worship.

You are all kept in prayer.

**St. Joseph Church & St. Patrick Church
Burrillville, RI**

