

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Protocol for Reopening with Social Distancing and Precautions to Prevent the Transmission of COVID-19

Revision 6/6/20

Bullet Instructions for Those Attending Mass

General Information

- Only the side (transept) doors are available to enter and leave the church. The Eagle Street doors are locked.
- Face coverings are to be worn during Mass.
- Please follow the instructions of ushers helping in the church. They are trained to help keep you safe. Our ushers are wearing blue ribbon sashes or armbands.
- The restrooms are closed except for emergencies. Please ask an usher for assistance.
- If you want to light a votive candle, please ask an usher. They will have a person light a candle for you and place it in front of one of the side altars of the church.
- Areas of the church and pews that are marked off with Red lines are closed.
- Blue arrows mark the normal traffic direction. Blue safe distance signs are also posted in the aisles. Pews marked with blue ribbon may be used during Mass. Please follow the instructions of ushers.

Entry

- As you approach the church entrance, please ensure your face covering is in place and that you and your family maintain a safe distance (6') from other families and from our volunteer ushers
- When you enter the church, print the name and phone number of everyone in your group on the Attendance Log when asked by an usher. This information is used only for contact tracing if that becomes necessary
- Pick up a worship aid for each member of your party
- An usher will escort you to a seat inside the church
- Please remain in your pew before Mass

Offertory

- No collection will be taken at the offertory.
- Leave your offertory in the marked basket near the door as you leave the church after Mass. If there are two collections, there will be two separately marked baskets.

Communion

- Communion will be distributed in the transepts first and in the main church second. This process facilitates the smooth flow of people for communion.
- Please follow the instructions of the ushers to come forward for communion. They know the new traffic pattern and will help judge a safe distance between parties.

- Approach the priest or deacon with your mask in place.
- Approach the priest or deacon with your mask in place. The host will be placed in the open palm of your hand.
- Continue past the minister to the column at the corner.
- Lower your mask, consume the Sacrament, replace your mask and then return to your seat in the church.
- If you choose to receive directly on the tongue, please understand that ministers are required to sanitize their hands after giving you Communion.

Dismissal

- After the priest has left the Altar, ushers will dismiss you from the pews, one pew at a time.
- Please wait for the usher to dismiss your pew before going toward the door.
- Everyone will leave the church through the side (transept) doors.
- Near the doors will be a table with baskets for the collection and a bin for used worship aids. Please put your offering in the basket and your used worship aid in the bin.
- Please do not congregate outside the door so that the people behind you can exit the church easily and maintain safe distance.
- If you wish to remain in your pew for a time in individual prayer, let the usher know as they pass. They will continue to other pews. Please remain in your pew until all the other pews have been dismissed.

Thank you for accommodating the adjustments necessary for a safe worship space. We realize that these changes are in addition to many others that you have made in the last three months.