

REMINDERS IN THESE DAYS OF COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

MASSES

- Masses may take place inside the parish church or outside.
 - Masses inside the church are limited to 25% of building occupancy or 100 persons, whichever is less.
 - Masses outside have no person limit as long as physical distancing is maintained.
- Face coverings are required to be worn by all people age two and above.
- Hand sanitizer should be readily available.
- Physical distancing is to be maintained.
- Baskets for the collection of monetary gifts to the parish are not to be passed from parishioner to parishioner.
- Musicians are limited to one accompanist and one cantor per liturgy.
- Singing by the assembly is permitted outside, but not inside.
- Any physical expression of the Sign of Peace is to be omitted.
- Holy Communion is to be distributed to members of the assembly in the hand.
- At the pastor's discretion, Holy Communion may be distributed at the usual place during Mass or after Mass has ended as the members of the assembly depart.
- Priests, Deacons and Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist are required to wear face coverings while distributing Holy Communion.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

- Advent penance services are suspended for this year due to COVID-19.
- At the discretion of the pastor, Bishop McElroy is permitting General Absolution to be imparted at all Sunday Advent Masses in place of the usual Penitential Act. This must be accompanied by substantive catechesis and explained to the members of the assembly as an interim measure designed to meet the emergency through which we are living. The Office for Liturgy and Spirituality will be providing a guide for pastors to use in their parishes in early November.

HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Holy Communion can be brought to the home of one who is sick/homebound by a practicing Catholic who is: living in the same household; a family member or relative; or a regular caregiver.

Holy Communion may not be brought to assisted care facilities, nursing homes, retirement homes, or similar places by Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist who minister to several unrelated persons. However, individual family members may bring Holy Communion to their relative living in an assisted care facility or similar place as long as they are visiting only their relative.

VIGIL MASSES

Until further notice and effective immediately, Bishop McElroy is allowing for Vigil Masses to take place any time after noon the day before. This should allow for maximum flexibility as pastors and parish staffs begin to plan for the time change coming on November 1 as well as the Masses of Christmas Eve.