

Preliminary Guidelines for the Basilica Shrine of Saint Mary

- Only allow people to enter through front doors
- Health guidelines posted on each door
- Temperature will be taken upon entering the church
- Please do not come to mass if you have a fever, coughing, lack of taste or smell or if you have recently been in contact with someone infected with COVID-19
- Pews, door handles, etc... sanitized between Masses
- No Holy Water
- No Precious Blood for Faithful
- Four eucharistic ministers only (two in front and two in back)
- Each eucharistic minister must wear gloves and mask
- Communion only in the hands, not in mouth
- Parishioners must bring hand sanitizer with them.
- No altar servers – sacristan can do everything
- One reader only
- Different books for reader and celebrant
- An organist and cantor only – no choirs – must be in choir loft, not at piano
- Remove all books from pews
- Ushers ensure safe distancing and counting of people to ensure overcrowding does not occur
- People six feet apart unless living together
- Ushers will wear masks and any other ppe that may be necessary if conditions warrant.
- Doors be left open
- No sign of peace
- Collection basket in one place
- No gathering before or after
- Markers on floor every six feet for communion lines.
- Restroom closed except for emergencies.
- Dismissal – row by row to ensure safe distancing
- Music – only popular hymns, sung by cantor to minimize people singing and spreading disease
- Gloria, Kyrie and Alleluia said not sung
- Seating – side by candles for large families sitting every other pew; remainder of church will be every pew but alternating sides for each pew
- Facemasks/face-coverings are to be worn by any persons two (2) years of age and older.