

**St. Mary Church**  
**Guidelines for Funerals**  
**June 22, 2020**

The hearse will lead the procession through the parking lot with the hearse only then proceeding to the front door of the Church. Upon arrival the casket will be brought into the Church to the front of the altar and placed parallel to the altar. The Paschal Candle will be up one step.

The funeral procession of cars will already be in the parking lot. Those cars arriving to the Church not a part of the funeral procession will be asked to remain in their cars until the funeral director directs the family to the rear entrance at door #4.

Only 40 persons by private invitations will be allowed into the Church. We will rely on family to make the decision as to who the forty persons will be. If possible, a list with names of phone numbers will be provided to the Church. We do know that this may at times be impossible. Upon entering, we will take a head count and a temperature check.

Live Streaming is permissible if the Funeral Home is prepared to provide this service. A family member could also provide this service but must do so from their seat.

*Upon entering the Church:*

Hymnals have been removed.

Holy water fonts have been emptied.

Face masks and social distance is required. Children under 2 should not use a face mask. Parents should judge for children between the ages of 2 and 5.

Arrows have been placed on the floor to direct traffic. These arrows are 6' apart.

Every other bench or more has been blocked off.

Seating will be the two middle sections only.

Funeral directors and ushers **must** assist people to a seat. Seating must be done from front to back. Benches need to be filled from the end of the bench to the middle aisle. Each bench has been marked for 6 feet apart seating. Households may sit together.

Music will be chosen by our Music Director from the usual selections.

There will be no congregational singing.

A Lector will be provided.

There can be no Offertory Procession.

There is no physical contact between households or individuals during the Sign of Peace or hand holding during the Lord's Prayer.

At Communion there will be no distribution of the Precious Blood. When approaching for Communion please keep your mask on. The Clergy and Eucharistic Minister will be wearing a mask when distributing Communion. After the Precious Body has been placed in the hands, step aside, lift the mask to consume, return your mask and then proceed back to seat.

Eulogies if prepared could be delivered at the cemetery but not at the Church.

When Mass is completed, ushers will give direction. We must exit beginning from the rear of the Church.

People will be asked to go directly to cars with no congregating keeping 6 feet distance for exiting the parking lot.

Funeral directors will remove the casket when the Church is empty and return to the rear parking lot to lead procession of cars if going to the cemetery.