



Roman Catholic Diocese of Peterborough

Worship Safe in Pictures and Points

At Home



How are you?

- In the last 24 hours, have you experienced any of these symptoms: temperature over 37.5° C/98.6° F, difficulty breathing, chest pain, cough, shortness of breath, chills, muscle pain/aches, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, or diarrhea?
- Have you travelled out of the country or province?



In the last fourteen days,

- Have you lived with, cared for or had close physical contact with someone who is in mandatory self-quarantine or who has tested positive for COVID-19 or who is presenting with symptoms?
- Have you lived with, cared for or had close physical contact with someone who has recently returned from travelling outside of Canada or outside of Ontario?



Take your temperature at home and if it is above 37.5° Celsius or 98.6° Fahrenheit – please stay home.



Obligation to attend Sunday Mass

- If you have answered "yes" to any of the questions above or have a temperature above 37.5° C/98.6° F, please stay home.
- Catholics who are ill are not obligated to attend Sunday Mass.
- Additionally, during these pandemic days, the dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass continues.



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- All in the assembly (with the exception of the priest and ministers unless they are so directed by a Medical Officer of Health) are strongly encouraged to wear a face mask.
- The face mask should be attached behind the ears for easy, touchless removal.



Water Bottle

- The water fountains are closed at the church.
- Bring your water bottle if you may need a drink of water while at church.



Go to the washroom at home.

- Mom always asked if everyone had gone before we got in the car for Mass – it is time to remember her practical advice.
- The washroom at the church is only to be used for emergencies and it will not be cleaned between uses.

At Church



These areas of the church are closed for now.

- Entrance to the sacristy is limited to those who are required to prepare for the liturgy.
- The crying room, areas for the sale of goods, water fountains, meeting rooms, and parish halls are closed.
- Small devotional areas and chapels where physical distance cannot be maintained are closed.
- Washrooms are closed except for emergencies.



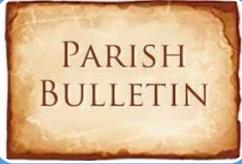
Just temporary

- Votive candles – the lighters have been removed from the area where votive candles are lit.
- Holy water fonts will remain empty.
- There will be no altar servers and concelebration is discouraged. (More than one priest.)



No singing, please.

- The hymn books have been removed from the pews and singing at the first phase of reopening is discouraged. (The virus is transmitted through droplets which increase the risk of infection when a congregation is singing in a church.)
- Responses to the Mass are not sung – they are recited verbally.



Parish Bulletin

- There will be no paper format of the parish bulletin.
- Please give your email address to the parish office to receive a copy by email.



Offertory

- The baskets for offertory will be available at a designated spot in the parish.
- The offertory baskets will not be passed among the pews.
- Consider touchless electronic and online forms of giving for your offertory.



Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

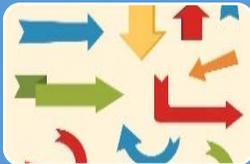
- The confessionals will be closed.
- A larger room in the parish where physical distancing can be maintained will be designated for this Sacrament.

Entering and Exiting the Church



- Churches will designate a door for entering and one for exiting.
- Walk through the door marked 'Entrance' keeping 6 feet or 2 meters distance between you and other people. When leaving the church, follow the directions of the ushers and use the door marked 'Exit' without congregating or socializing with other people.
- Use the hand sanitizer at the church.

Signs and Directions



- In some churches, there may be tape on the floor to show you directions and/or to point out markers for physical distancing.
- Follow the indicators on the floor unless directed otherwise by an usher.
- Some pews may be roped or taped off. Proceed to a pew that is open for seating.

The Importance of Ushers



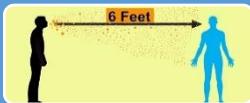
The Ushers are volunteers from the parish who have been trained to assist with the safety and well-being of the parishioners. Follow their directions to enter and exit the parish and to receive Holy Communion.

Greeting One Another Socially and Liturgically



Wave, nod, thumbs up other parishioners as you enter and exit the church but avoid physical contact or coming within the 6 feet or 2 metres physical distance. For the Greeting of Peace, please extend a simple bow of the head towards other parishioners as a sign of peace.

Leaving the Pew to Receive Holy Communion



The usher will direct you and your household to come forward to receive Holy Communion while maintaining physical distance from other households.

How do I receive Holy Communion?



Six Feet or Two Metres from the Priest /Eucharistic Minister

- The priest will say, "The Body of Christ."
- You respond, "Amen."



In Front of the Priest/Eucharistic Minister

- Step forward to the priest.
- Extend and open your hand.
- The priest will place Holy Communion on your hand.



Extraordinary Ministers of Communion with a Pyx

- When the Extraordinary Minister of Communion comes forward to receive Holy Communion, please extend the pyx to the Priest/Eucharistic Minister after you have received Holy Communion.
- Signal with your fingers if you would like more than one consecrated host.

Getting Back Home



Cleaning

- Wash your hands thoroughly.
- It's your choice... You may wish to wash the clothes you have worn outside of the home when you arrive at home.



Keeping Track

- If you accidentally came within the 6 feet/2 metre physical distance of someone you know, write down the name of the person and the date of the Mass or the date of contact at the parish.



Testing Positive for COVID-19

- If you test positive for COVID-19 and have been attending the parish for Mass or personal prayer, please call the parish office to let us know. We want to extend pastoral care to you and safeguard the health of others.
- If you have been tracking the people with whom you may have had contact, please share that information with the Health Unit.
- If a priest or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, the parish community will be informed.