

Saint Richard Mass Guidelines

All Catholics in the Diocese of Jackson, and not just those over 65 or high risk, are *still dispensed* of the Sunday Obligation. If you feel unsafe coming to Mass, please feel free to stay home.

- If you feel sick, **do not come to Mass!**
- Those persons age 65 and over, and those with serious underlying medical conditions, are directed by Bishop Kopacz to continue to 'shelter in place' and not attend Mass.
- Masses in the church will be limited to 150 people; **first come, first served**. Since we have two priests, we will have overflow Masses in the gym for those parishioners unable to fit in the church (approximately another 150 people). Normal Mass times will be maintained: 4 P.M. Saturday Vigil; 8 A.M., 10:30 A.M., and 5 P.M. Sunday.
- Everyone age 2 and above **must** wear a face-mask during Mass. **NO EXCEPTIONS**. The only time you may remove your face-mask is during the reception of Communion. *Parents, if your small child over the age of 2 has difficulty wearing a mask that long, simply use your best judgement in dealing with this situation.*
- Hand sanitizer will be available at the entrance of the church. You are strongly encouraged to bring your own hand sanitizer if possible. It will be advisable to sanitize your hands before the reception of Communion.
- Entrance to the church will be through the front doors only, to make it possible for the ushers to keep count of how many people are in the church. The side doors and cry room will be locked.
- Every other pew will be blocked off as to maintain the 6 feet 'social distancing' requirement. Families and those living under the same roof may sit next to one another in the pews. All others must maintain a 6 feet distance when choosing a seat.
- Each week, the Mass 'worship aid' with words to the hymns, responsorial psalm, etc, will be available on our Facebook page, and can be accessed through your phone during Mass. This will eliminate the need for hymnals or paper 'worship aids'.
- During Mass, there will be no exchange of the Sign of Peace or distribution of the Precious Blood during Communion. There will be no offertory procession or Presentation of the Gifts. There will be a basket at the foot of the altar for individuals to drop in their offerings if desired.
- At the end of each Mass, the priest will ask for volunteers to remain to help disinfect the church. We will provide disinfectant, masks, gloves, and towels.

Please maintain 'social distancing' during the reception of Communion and when entering and exiting the church.