



ANNOUNCEMENTS BEFORE CHRISTMAS MASSES 2020

The purpose of these announcements is to assist those who are attending Christmas Mass to understand the COVID-19 precautions to be observed during Mass, with which many may not be familiar. Communicating this information before Mass will help everyone to celebrate this solemn occasion without distraction or confusion about what is expected of them.

Good [morning/afternoon/evening], welcome to [parish name here] and to this Mass for the Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord in which we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God who became man out of love for us. All of you are most welcome and we hope that through this Holy Mass you will experience anew the great love of God for you and be filled with His peace and blessing. Due to the pandemic, we are asking everyone to observe the following during the celebration of Mass:

- It is strongly encouraged that you wear a face covering or mask during Mass.
- Please observe social distancing between yourselves and members of other households or families.
- You will notice during Mass that the invitation to give one another the Sign of Peace before Communion will be omitted. We also ask that you do not hold hands during the Our Father.
- For the reception of Holy Communion, Catholics who are spiritually prepared - those who are faithful to the Commandments and are free from serious sin through the Sacrament of Penance - may come forward to receive the Body of Christ. Those who are not receiving at this time, please remain in your pews and unite yourself spiritually with the Lord.
- Please make a single file line for the reception of Holy Communion and please keep several pews between yourself and the person in front of you before and after receiving the Body of Christ.
- We encourage everyone to receive Holy Communion in the hand at this time and to consume the host immediately. However, if you wish to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, you may do so.
- Please remove your face covering or mask before receiving Holy Communion.
- [If applicable, insert here any additional practices that the faithful should be aware of about exiting the Church]

Again, welcome to this celebration of the Nativity of the Lord. May it be an encounter with the Infant Jesus who loves you and desires to fill you with His joy this Christmas.