

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish Mass Guidelines in Light of Covid-19 as of June 17, 2020

Archbishop Gomez has indefinitely dispensed the Sunday obligation of attending Mass. For Sunday, we will celebrate Mass on the Grass at 8:00 am and 10:00 am. (The 10 am Mass will continue to be livestreamed on our website.) Attendance at Mass is limited to 100 people. Therefore, we are asking you to make a reservation to ensure that we abide by the gathering count requirements.

Although the CDC suggests people who are 65 year and older or those whose immune system may be compromised, avoid large gatherings, we will make Communion available to everyone. After you watch the 10:00 am livestream of the Mass at home, you can come to the church between 11:10 am and 11:40 am to receive Communion. Please come to the church's main parking lot, park, and an usher will greet and guide you to the Communion line. Please bring your face covering/mask.

For those who come to Mass on the Grass, **here are some items/guidelines to be aware of:**

- A. Reservations will be required. Please make a reservation so we can ensure we have an accurate count of who will be attending. We ask that you send an email to info@mtcarmelsb.com with your family name, the names of your household that will be joining you **and** what Mass you will be attending, the 8:00am or 10:00am. Your reservation **must be made by 12:00 noon, the Friday before the Mass.**
- B. Please plan to arrive at least 10 minutes before Mass, to allow time to check in.
- C. Each parishioner must wear a face covering or mask for the protection of others. We kindly ask that you please put these on as soon as you leave your car and they are to remain on until you return to your car after Mass.
- D. Please bring your own lawn chairs, seats, or blanket to our new "Mass on the Grass." We will have the grass marked to maintain appropriate social distances.
- E. You will enter Mass through the gate in the church's main parking lot – the one that leads into the school yard.
- F. You will be greeted at the gate, checked-in and shown where the sanitizing stations and seating is.
- G. At Communion, please remember to keep a 6 ft. distance from the person in front of you. Once you receive the Body of Christ, step 6 ft to the side of the priest to lower you mask for the Eucharist and re-mask before walking back to your seat. For health reasons, Communion is only to be received in the hand. (Ushers to assist with Communion.)
- H. We know our church is a social place to share stories with friends and fellow parishioners, but we ask that you refrain from these small gatherings and go straight to your car when Mass is over.

These steps are being taken to lessen the risk to you and your family and help prevent the spread of this illness during our worship time. As new information becomes available about the status of this situation, we will update our plan and practices to meet the current and evolving guidelines. We so look forward to praying with you in person on Sunday.