

Mass Times

I do not know how it happened, but I somehow listed the wrong times for Sunday Mass and placed them in the entrance of each Church.

Next, someone put it on Social Media.

I did not realize the mistake until Saturday Morning.

So ... 5 Masses this Morning ... August 23rd.

Thanks to Fr. David Axtman for helping out.

Fr. David will celebrate the 2 Masses in De Smet.

I will take the one in Arlington & the 2 in Bryant.

The CORRECT times for next week are listed to right.

Saturday Evening Mass

I plan to begin that again ... soon.

I decided NOT to have one when we started up again in May. (was it May?)

Since Mass was NOT obligatory then, I decided to have all 3 Masses on Sunday morning.

It also opened Saturday for the following (without having to find a sub):

- A First Communion Mass in Arlington;
- 2 Saturdays for Graduation Receptions.
- 3 out-of-town Weddings. (2 more to go)

(more on Weddings next week)

August 23, 2020

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

	St. John's Arlington	St. Mary's Bryant	St. Thomas De Smet
Aug. 24-30	Feast Day	Mass Schedule	Intention
Mon.	St. Barrholomew	No Mass	
Tues.	St. Louis (or) St. Joseph Calasanz	No Mass	
Wed.	9:00 am – B	Bill Kading
Thurs.	St. Monica	7:00 am – A	Mike Hillestad & Fam.
Fri.	St. Augustine	8:00 am – D	Betty Carroll
Sat. Morn.	Behheading of St. John the Baptist	8:00 am – D	Fritz Hendricks
Aug. 30	Sunday Morn.	8:30 am – A 10 - D 11:30 - B	All Parishioners Betty Webb Bill O'Connell

On the Back Side Guidelines we received from the Bishop on August 10th/

Below is a section from the Bishop's letter to the Faithful of the Diocese.

Dispensation from the Obligation to Attend Sunday Mass Change

After receiving clarity through prayer, consultation with clergy and others, and in light of this data, effective on August 17, 2020, I am changing the dispensation to apply *only to those at increased risk for severe illness¹ and those responsible for their care*. It is important for all in the diocese to know that this modification is made out of pastoral concern for the souls entrusted to my spiritual care.

Guidance for Those Not at Increased Risk of Severe Illness

For those not at increased risk of severe illness, the Church has long recognized circumstances in which the faithful may be excused from Mass attendance even without a dispensation from the bishop. For example, during a normal influenza season, one who is ill with influenza-like symptoms may, in good conscience, refrain from attending Mass due to their illness, and also as an act of justice towards others so the illness isn't passed on.

If one wishes to avoid attending Sunday Mass in person due to significant fear or some other serious reason, the Church teaches us that we must carefully discern whether the fear is morally justifiable, or whether such fear is inordinate (not reasonable) and, therefore, not based on a prudent examination of reality. But it is essential that these serious questions are discerned in prayer and that the decisions are made in good faith, based upon objective data.

To apply these principles to COVID-19, examples of circumstances that might be discerned as morally justifiable reasons for *not* attending Sunday Mass may include regular contact with a person with increased risk; recent, prolonged contact² with a symptomatic person; or a significant emotional response from fear of contracting COVID-19.



Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls
Office of the Bishop

523 N. Duluth Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57104
(605) 988-3798
(605) 334-2092 fax

August 10, 2020

Updated Guidelines for Liturgies and other Ministry Activity in Parishes

Our faith informs us that attendance at Sunday Mass is *essential* for the wellbeing of the faithful whenever reasonably possible. Therefore, effective on August 17, 2020, the general dispensation to attend Sunday Mass will be lifted and the Sunday obligation restored for all the faithful *except those at increased risk of serious illness and those responsible for their care*. Pastors and Catholic leaders should anticipate and plan for more faithful at Mass and other ministries and events.

To that end, the following guidance is intended to aid in discerning appropriate measures to implement. This guidance replaces what was provided on May 1, 2020. It is the fruit of clarity in prayer, broad consultation, and a comprehensive review of data.

Celebration of Mass and Other Liturgies

1. Persons with symptoms of an illness are asked to stay home.
2. Promote prudent and reasonable social (physical) distancing and good hygiene practices.
 - a. This can be done, for example, with signs at entrances stating: Please be prudent about practicing social distancing and healthy hygiene.
 - b. In those worship spaces where pews have been marked off in 6 ft. distancing, pastors may gradually remove the physical barriers (e.g. ropes, etc.) to allow for more seating.
 1. The removal of physical barriers might be done only in certain areas of the church's seating. By designating a certain portion of the worship space, we are respecting that some parishioners may prefer physical barriers to aid them in maintaining reasonable social distances.
 2. Parishes may introduce these changes incrementally, over a series of weekends so as to encourage Mass attendees to self-initiate prudent and reasonable social distancing practices.
 - c. Provide sanitizer and disposable masks at entrances allowing faithful to sanitize and wear masks if they so choose.
 - d. In some parishes, it may be appropriate to designate a particular Sunday Mass for those who are more vulnerable or who provide regular care to those at elevated risk. This might allow some to feel safer while attending.
3. All faithful are free to access the sacraments, liturgies and other ministries of our parishes. Preregistration should no longer be requested of Mass attendees so the faithful can attend when it best serves them.
4. Pastors may consider offering additional Mass times but should not exceed a reasonably healthy number of Masses for each priest (c. 905).
5. Pastors are asked to normalize the parish's use of liturgical ministers wherever reasonably possible, including the Mass procession.
6. It is prudent that the sign of peace would continue to be suspended and that the passing of collection baskets should be avoided. Similarly, at this time, gift bearers should not be used during the offertory at Masses.
7. Disposable worship aids, rather than missalettes or hymnals, should be considered.
8. Holy Water may be restored to Holy Water receptacles in church and other typical locations in Catholic facilities for those who choose to use it.