

General Guide for Worshipping at St. Thomas of Villanova

Rowley Activity Center (Gym)

Before Arrival

- Please wash your hands with soap & water for 20 seconds and bring a face mask for everyone attending. Face shields are not allowed.
- Gathering Area doors will be open 20 minutes before each Mass. **Please do not begin gathering any earlier than 20 minutes before your reserved Mass time.** All other doors will be locked

Check-In

1. Park in the south lot and enter through the south Gathering Area doors.
2. Observe social distancing rule while you are waiting to be greeted.
3. Please wait patiently for volunteer #1 to greet you and verify the following:
 - You are on the reservation list
 - You are wearing a face mask that covers your nose and mouth.
 - You are not ill, have a temperature or been exposed directly to COVID-19 in the last 14 days
4. You will then be asked to wait in a designated spot in the Gathering Area until volunteer #2 is ready to escort you into the Church.

NOTE: Doors close 5 minutes after Mass begins to allow our volunteers to attend Mass.

Seating

- Seats are filled from right to left (facing the altar) and front to back in the order you arrive.
- Please remain in your assigned seat throughout the Mass.

Mass should proceed as normal, but a few things should be noted:

- You must keep your face mask over your mouth and nose for the duration of the Mass.
- Currently, there is no singing during the Mass but take the time to pray the words in your heart.
- Listen carefully to directives and follow the guidance of the volunteers.
- There will be no collection during Mass. You can place your donation in the offertory box as you enter/exit the church or consider setting up online giving through GiveCentral or continue to mail in your contribution.

Communion

1. Please stay in your seat until an usher dismisses your row.
2. Everyone must leave their row to avoid crossing over people. If you are not receiving the Eucharist, simply cross your arms for a blessing as you approach the altar.
3. An usher will dismiss your row and provide hand sanitizer for you to rub in your hands.
4. Please follow the 6 foot socially distanced markers on the floor when approaching the Priest/Deacon.
5. Approach the Priest/Deacon only after you are called forward. **DO NOT REMOVE YOUR MASK.**
6. Extend your hands to receive the Eucharist.
7. Step to your right 6 feet away from the Priest/Deacon, remove your mask and consume the Eucharist.
8. Replace your mask and return to your row.

Dismissal

- You will need to remain in your seat until an usher dismisses your row.
 - We will be dismissing from both the front and back of the Rowley Activity Center.
- Don't forget to check your seat before leaving for any of your belongings.

The above procedures have been implemented for your safety. As a reminder, Cardinal Cupich has continued the dispensation of the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Thank you for your patience and adherence to these rules.