

On Mission for the Church Alive! Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to go to Mass at my parish church?

You can attend any of the Masses in your grouping, or in any grouping, to fulfill your Sunday obligation.

What happens to my envelope if I attend Mass in a church other than my parish's church building?

Your envelope will be routed to your parish, regardless of where you attend Mass, even if it is outside of your parish grouping.

Will each parish still have its own pastoral and finance councils?

By universal law of the Church, each parish must have a finance council. By diocesan law, each parish must have a pastoral council. Because the parishes have not yet merged, but are still separate parishes, each will continue to have a pastoral and finance council. However, for the sake of effective communication, coordination and planning, the councils may all meet together with the administrator.

Where will the priests live?

The clergy team will determine their residences over the course of the summer. Parishioners will be informed of the residences by October 1, 2018.

Will the office of my parish remain open?

Depending on the number of parishes in the grouping and the geography of the area, the administrator will determine how to best serve the administrative needs of your grouping.

Will funerals be celebrated in my parish church?

Yes.

Will Baptisms be celebrated in my parish church?

Baptisms will always be celebrated by the Church. Times and locations for the celebration of this Sacrament will be determined by the administrator.

Will weddings be celebrated in my parish church?

In every case where it is possible, the times and locations of weddings already scheduled through 2019 will be honored. If there is a conflict with the interim Mass schedule, every effort will be made to honor the request of the couple.

Will the schedule and location for my children's religious education change?

All religious education programs that take place on Sunday will be considered when planning the interim Mass schedule. If changes are necessary, they will be communicated at the same time as the interim Mass schedule. Be assured that the ministry of catechesis will continue for every family and child in your grouping.

Will any church buildings close in 2018 due to the *On Mission* initiative?

No. Each grouping will have at least two years to develop plans for how best to come together as a new parish. Recommendations about the future use of buildings will be part of that proposal to the bishop. No buildings are expected to close before then, and parishioners will be consulted throughout the planning process.

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