



## ACCOMMODATING MASS-GOERS *for* CHRISTMAS EVE *and* CHRISTMAS DAY, 2020

### Mass Times and Spaces

- Offer Masses mid-evening on Christmas Eve (i.e., at 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 10 p.m.)
- Offer Mass on the evening of Christmas Day
- Offer simultaneous Masses on church grounds, utilizing a help-out priest and musician
- For parishes with multiple worship sites, offer additional Masses at all sites, staggering times
- Livestream Masses to overflow seating if the space is contiguous to the church proper

### Invitations and Announcements

- Utilize robocalls, invitational videos on social media, emails and push notifications to communicate Mass times, inform of any procedures (i.e. registration) and communicate safety measures
- Hang a banner on your building or property to highlight Mass times
- Post your Advent and Christmas Mass times on the homepage of your parish website
- Update your Advent and Christmas Mass times on the archdiocesan website
- Coordinate Mass times with the parishes in your cluster, municipality or deanery, and publish a joint schedule several weeks before Christmas

### Registration and Staffing

- Utilize a registration process
- If your parish uses a registration process, offer registration up to 90% of the social-distancing capacity to allow for some walk-ins
- Ask your staff and key leaders to be present for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses, to assist with coordination and welcoming. Pastors, administrators and parish directors are also asked to consider providing staff with additional time off during Christmas week for their efforts during Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses.

### Liturgical Ministry

- Start talking with lay ministers now about their availability, willingness, and comfort. Don't assume anything. People's typical holiday routines (travel, gatherings, work schedule) may be radically different than in a typical year.
- Consider creating a comprehensive worship aid (print and digital) to assist people in praying. Don't forget that many people coming to (or watching online) Christmas Mass may not be regular "church-goers" and could benefit from the basic Mass responses.