

Changes in Ushering at St. Thomas

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Good morning Ushers,

With the recent removal of most of the Covid-19 restrictions in our state the Archdiocese has updated guidance for us which is in our bulletin for this Sunday and it is attached to this email for you. These changes go into effect beginning with tonight's 5pm Mass.

Here are some specific instructions for Ushers:

- Prep Church as normal
- Ushers, please wear your mask
- New signs have been posted

- Note the smaller designated section for social distancing on the St. Thomas side. **Please make adjustments and give feedback if this section needs to be larger**
- Just a reminder that masks are optional for parishioners, but CDC does recommend them
- **Collection:** if necessary, recruit additional parishioners to assist you with the collection, use the long handled baskets for the collection and keep the small round baskets at the exits for now. After the creed, prepare the collection team and go forward when everyone sits after the prayers of the faithful. There is no offertory procession, so consolidate the collection in the narthex and then have two ushers deposit the collection in the sacristy safe

- **Communion:** both sections will process at same time (EMHC will help Father distribute communion) use two ushers for communion, both in the center aisle, one for each side
- set out bulletins as usual
- close up as usual; check the baskets in case some make a donation after Mass

Thank you!

God Bless,
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