

## Protocols for Weddings during COVID-19

10.01.20



1. All Wedding participants including guests must abide by St. Mary's protocols.
2. Up to 125 people may attend, including the wedding party and family.
3. Wedding party numbers are currently limited to 3 bridesmaids and 3 groomsmen.
4. Couples may request that the wedding be livestreamed for those unable to attend. Livestream can be viewed at [www.stmarys-wbl.org](http://www.stmarys-wbl.org).
5. Currently, the only music ministers are Rebecca Kaup (Director of Liturgical Music and accompanist) and Carley O'Bryan (cantor).
6. Congregational singing is not allowed. No music slides.
7. If celebrating a Eucharistic Liturgy, there is no offertory song or presentation of gifts.
8. Worship aids/wedding programs cannot be handed out, but people can pick them up as they enter the church.
9. Guest books are not permitted at weddings at this time.
10. Displays in the gathering space are not permitted at this time.
11. Nursery is closed.
12. Everyone should enter through the parking lot doors.
13. Masks must be worn at all times by everyone age 2 and above.
14. Everyone sanitizes hands upon entering the building.
15. Social distancing will be practiced in the church and on church property.
16. Congregating in the gathering space before or after the wedding is not permitted. 30 minutes before the wedding, the wedding party will gather in the St. Joseph Room while guests are seated by the ushers.
17. Upon their arrival, guests are required to wear masks, to sanitize their hands and will be escorted to a pew by the ushers.
18. Ushers will lead guests to their pew, but not extend an arm to the women.
19. If celebrating a Eucharistic Liturgy, there will be no communion procession. Attendees remain in their pews; a minister will come to them with hand sanitizer. A Eucharistic minister follows to distribute communion. Attendees wait until ministers have cleared the pew, remove masks, and consume Eucharist. Masks go back on.

**The wedding party must wear masks at all times with these exceptions:**

20. The Bride and Groom do not need to wear a mask once they process into church.
21. The wedding party may remove their masks as they step into the center aisle for the entrance procession. Masks will go back on when they sit down after the opening prayer and remain on for the duration of the wedding.
22. The Maid of Honor and Best Man will join the bridal couple on the steps near the altar during the exchange of vows and rings. They may remove their masks while they are standing. Masks are put back on when they are seated.
23. Readers will remove their masks when reading.
24. Immediately following the wedding, the wedding party will gather in the St. Joseph Room to wait for wedding guests to clear out.
25. At the conclusion of the ceremony, wedding guests remain in their pews. Ushers dismiss each row and the guests exit the church immediately.
26. Receiving lines are not permitted inside or outside the church at this time.

Wedding protocols may be modified as State of Minnesota and Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis procedures change.

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