

**“We Are In This Together”**  
COVID-19 Protocols for Funerals  
St. Mary’s Basilica

**Making Arrangements:**

- Please contact the priest presider, as soon as possible, to plan the funeral liturgy before the date of the funeral.
- Please contact the Music Director, as soon as possible, to plan the music for the funeral liturgy before the date of the funeral.

**Visitation / Rosary Vigil:**

- During COVID-19 restrictions there will be NO visitations or rosary vigil before the funeral. This helps us maintain COVID-19 safety protocols.

**Rite of Christian Burial:**

- Due to COVID-19 all funerals will use the *Rite of Christian Burial*. Eucharist will not be celebrated during the funeral service.

**Maximum Seating Capacity:**

- Seating is limited to 100 people.
- Family of deceased prioritizes limited seating of 100 people.
- Guest are required to wear face coverings, practice social distancing and use hand sanitizer provided by St. Mary’s Basilica at main entrances.
- All guest need to be masked, socially distanced, and seated before service begins.
- Failure to comply with parish’s protocols by visitors is reason to quickly disperse the funeral. This is at the discretion of the celebrant for the safety of our guests and staff.

**Ushers / Hospitality:**

- We ask families to provide ushers / hospitality to help seat those in attendance, remind participants to wear face coverings, practice social distancing, use hand sanitizer and discourage congregating at the entrances.

**Pall Bearers:**

- Pall Bearers are limited to four (4) people.
- Required to wear face coverings, practice social distancing and use hand sanitizer while assisting with the coffin or cremains in the Arc-urn.

### **Opening and Closing Procession:**

- The opening and closing processions behind the coffin / cremains in Arc-urn will only include immediate family to help maintain social distancing.

### **Music and Singing:**

- Our Music Director in consultation with the family will select music and will provide the musical accompaniment and singing.
- Guest musicians need to be approved and arranged with the Music Director.
- Recorded music or secular music is not permitted during the liturgy.
- Funeral guests are invited to participate in singing while wearing their face covering during the entirety of the funeral liturgy.

### **Cemetery Burial:**

- Burials at local cemeteries will follow COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Guests are required to wear face coverings, practice social distancing and use hand sanitizer while at the cemetery.
- Military rites are welcomed during the committal rite and take place after the committal rite with the priest.

### **Dia de los Muertos / All Souls:**

- We invite your family to return to St. Mary's Basilica for our Dia de los Muertos Festival on the Sunday closest to November 2 to continue to remember and celebrate the life of your loved one who has passed away. Memorials and altars are prepared to honor them in this celebration of life and death.

### **Mass Intentions and Memorial Masses:**

- Mass intentions for your deceased loved ones are welcomed. Contact the parish office at 602-354-2100 to arrange to have a Mass intention offered during the weekday or weekend Masses.
- Likewise, a memorial mass can be celebrated for your loved one on the death of their anniversary, or other occasion. Contact the parish office to make arrangements.