



MASS INTENTION POLICY

From the earliest days of the Church, an important Spiritual Work of Mercy has been “To Pray for the Dead.” Their souls are precious to the Lord and to us. Because Holy Mass is the highest form of prayer, the faithful are encouraged to “bring their prayer intentions” when they come to Mass. For centuries the faithful have requested the priest to “pray for my intention” and the practice began for a priest to offer one intention per Mass as his own personal intention. The intention is usually for a departed soul, but it can be extended to the living such as “For the living and deceased members of my family” or as broad as “Peace in the World.” As a sign of appreciation, an offering was given to the priest.

While Mass intentions are encouraged, our parish has more requests than it can fulfill on a timely basis. Please review the following Mass Intention Policy.

1. Mass intentions are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.
2. An individual (or family) may request a maximum of six (6) Masses per year. These Mass intentions will be scheduled within 12 months of the request. The only exception will be for recent funerals in which a maximum of twenty (20) Masses can be offered at MMOC over the course of a full 24-month period, with one of them scheduled on a weekday closest to the one-year anniversary of death.
3. A maximum of two Mass intentions can be scheduled on weekends or Holy Days per year.
4. If the number of Mass intentions requested exceeds the maximum number allowed under this policy, they will be forwarded to another priest. The names of the donors will be published in the bulletin, but not the date and location of the Mass.
5. The suggested offering for each Mass is \$10.00.
6. Mass intentions are published in the bulletin along with the name(s) of the person(s) requesting the Mass.
7. It is the requester's responsibility to contact those they wish to be notified about the date and time of the Mass.
8. The date of the Mass intention is subject to change without prior notice to the requester.
9. Although the Mass intention does not need to be announced during the Mass, it is normally included as part of the Prayer of the Faithful.

March 6, 2024