

Standard Guideline #2 - For General Visitation – Walk-In

This is a standard Guideline for General Visitations – Walk-In which can be used by a parish as their plan for conducting this type of Event. The parish can request this approval by email stating:

- That they will follow the Guideline as outlined below
- A description of the event(s)
- Identify the space to be used, and the entry and exit points to the space (preferably with a sketch).
- Whether the request is for a single event or periodic events.

Examples of general visitations are a family visitation prior to a funeral (please note this does not apply to the funeral service itself, only the visitation) and visitations for special occasions to allow parishioners or others time in the sacred space (please note this does not apply to a worship service). Special occasions may include art displays, viewing of a decorated church for a holiday, or a time of individual prayer.

General

1. This is for a visitation only and not a service.
2. The visitation will be posted with ample time for parishioners to plan for attendance.
3. A greeter outside the building and one person inside the building will be needed for registration and to assist in the flow of people through the building. Ushers will avoid using same route as the family/visitors.
4. There will be a set period of time that access to the building is allowed.
5. Guidelines for screening, social distancing and wearing masks will be followed.

Visitation

1. A means of separating attendees a minimum of 10 feet apart will be established. These can be chalk marks on a walk, signs, or other appropriate means.
2. A greeter will ask the current CDC COVID-19 screening questions and record the names of those attending. Those who answer no to a screening question will be asked to leave.
3. The greeter will allow an attendee or family to enter once the previous attendee/family has departed.

4. Greeters, assistant and attendees will be required to wear masks. Attendees will be directed to move to a designated area that is 10 feet away others.
5. If attendees are allowed to be seated, they shall be directed to different locations within the space.
6. Attendees will enter by the main door of the church, and leave by another door, both of which will be propped open. Windows will be opened if possible.
7. The attendees will exit through the designated exit.
8. The process will be repeated as required.
9. Attendees will spend the minimum time necessary but should not exceed 15 minutes.

Ash Wednesday – Special Instructions

1. If imposition of ashes will be performed the following must occur:
 - a. The participants be screened prior and those who have symptoms or COVID-19 contact(s) not participate.
 - b. All participants be masked with a properly fitted, properly worn mask.
 - c. All participants maintain separation of a minimum of 6 to 10 feet but preferably 10 feet separation, except for the moment of imposition.
 - d. The clergy imposing ashes sanitize their hand between each imposition.
 - e. The other procedural guidelines in the Standard Guidelines be followed.

Approval of the General Visitation – Walk-In

1. Following receipt of the request, the Bishop or Standing Committee, with assistance of the Way Force Task Force, provide a response approving the request by email.
2. Once this response email is received, the parish may conduct the visitation as approved in the description and in this Guideline.
3. The approval will remain in effect until COVID-19 restrictions are removed or the event occurs, whichever is the case.