

Policy for Scheduling Mass Intentions

There are roughly 700 Masses offered in our parish a year. With around 1600 people at Mass each weekend, a policy for scheduling Mass intentions is necessary. This has become more apparent in recent years. As of May 1, 2025, there were no available Masses to schedule intentions at St Joseph Church or Immaculate Conception Church for the remainder of 2025.

“From the beginning the Church has honored the memory of the dead and offered prayers in suffrage for them, above all the Eucharistic sacrifice, so that, thus purified, they may attain the beatific vision of God” – *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1032

We continue the pious practice of receiving Intentions for the offering of Mass. Parishioners are invited and encouraged to schedule Mass intentions through the parish office. As custom in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, the offering for a Mass Intention is \$5.00. However, the faithful can offer more for an intention, if they desire.

The laws for receiving Mass Intentions are governed by the *Code of Canon Law* (945-958). The following policy will take effect on July 1, 2025 for the Holy Face of Jesus Parish:

- Mass intentions for a given year can be scheduled beginning July of the previous. For example, Masses in 2026 can be scheduled beginning on July 1, 2025. Masses in 2027 can be scheduled beginning on July 1, 2026.
- Each parishioner can schedule three (3) Mass intentions each year.
- Only one (1) of these Masses can occur on a weekend (Saturday evening or Sunday morning).
- Each parishioner can only schedule their own Masses. For example, a parishioner cannot schedule three Masses for herself, three Masses for her husband, three Masses for her son, three Masses for her granddaughter. Each person must schedule their own Masses.
- Mass intentions can be scheduled in the office, over the phone, or via email.
- Mass intentions will be published in the weekly parish bulletin.
- If there are no available Masses to schedule an intention, parishioners can contribute to a general Purgatorian Mass. It will be published in the bulletin as, “For the Souls in Purgatory.”
- As required by the *Code of Canon Law* (534), one Mass each weekend will be designated “For the People of the Holy Face of Jesus Parish.” This Mass is normally celebrated by the Pastor.

Thank you for caring for your loved ones and having Masses offered for them.

