

I've received email notifications that a person who attended the same Mass has tested positive, can I find out who it was or if I need to quarantine?

Individuals who test positive are entitled to privacy. However, if you are considered a close contact you would be contacted by the appropriate health authority and advised to self-quarantine. The CDC defines a close contact as an individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 2 days before illness onset (or for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the patient is isolated.

Note: The seating at Mass has been designed to keep different households at least 6 feet apart. All individuals, however, should self-monitor for any symptoms and contact your health care provider with any concerns. When notified of a positive case, St. Luke will continue to inform the parish while respecting the privacy of the individual.

Who needs to self-quarantine for 14 days even if they do not have COVID-19 or symptoms?

Quarantine is used to keep someone who might have been exposed to COVID-19 away from others. Quarantine helps prevent spread of disease that can occur before a person knows they are sick or if they are infected with the virus without feeling symptoms. People in quarantine should stay home, separate themselves from others, monitor their health, and follow directions from their state or local health department.

People who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19—excluding people who have had COVID-19 within the past 3 months.

- People who have tested positive for COVID-19 do not need to quarantine or get tested again for up to 3 months as long as they do not develop symptoms again. People who develop symptoms again within 3 months of their first bout of COVID-19 may need to be tested again if there is no other cause identified for their symptoms.

What counts as close contact?

- You were within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more
- You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19
- You had direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them)
- You shared eating or drinking utensils
- They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you

Note: If you live with someone who has COVID-19 and cannot avoid continued close contact, you should avoid contact with others outside the home while the person is sick, and quarantine for 14 days after the person who has COVID-19 meets the criteria to end home isolation.

Father Gary is at every Mass that I have received notification about an infected parishioner. Why doesn't he have to self-quarantine?

Only those who have had close contact with an individual are required to self-quarantine. For COVID-19, a **close contact** is defined as any individual who was **within 6 feet** of an infected person **for at least 15 minutes** starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.

What is happening with Faith Formation and sacramental preparation for the Fall?

Information is still being developed and will be shared with families as soon as it is finalized. Be sure to watch your email and parish communications in the coming weeks.

Can I attend Mass in the church?

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended until further notice. Please exercise prudential judgment in deciding whether to attend Mass.

Masses are being livestreamed. Please check the church website for information on how to access on YouTube (or search for Saint Luke Mint Hill on YouTube). The dispensation from Mass does not remove the obligation to keep the Lord's Day holy: seek to refrain from work, spend time in prayer individually and as a family, and extend charity to others. If you do not attend Mass, you are encouraged to make a spiritual communion

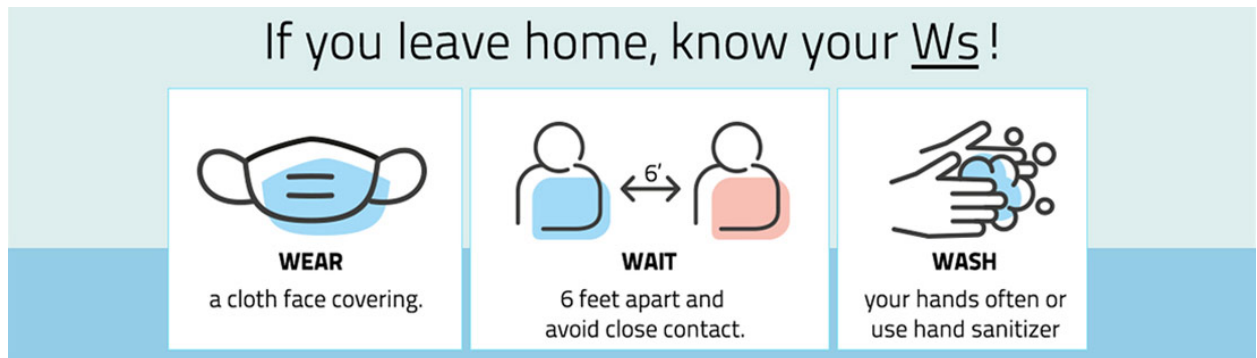
For those who chose to attend Mass, please note that attendance is still limited, social distancing, masks, and other measures are required, and a number of safety notices recommended by the CDC are posted throughout the church.

Do not attend church if you are under self-quarantine, have tested positive and have not met the criteria to end self-isolation, or if you are experiencing a fever or any flu like symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell).

What type of symptoms should I be concerned about?

When self-monitoring please be aware of fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell and contact your health provider with any questions.

Don't Forget



How do I get tested for COVID-19?

COVID-19 tests are available at no cost nationwide at health centers and select pharmacies. The Families First Coronavirus Response Act ensures that COVID-19 testing is free to anyone in the U.S., including the uninsured. Additional testing sites may be available in your area. Contact your health care provider or your state or local public health department for more information. Select locations of CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart also offer testing. The former Rite Aid location on Idlewild by 485 is a testing site nearby the church.

To find a testing location near you please go to:

<https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/about-covid-19/testing/find-my-testing-place>

Will getting tested for COVID-19 affect my immigration status?

No. Your medical information is confidential. Your doctor may not share it with immigration officials. Also, the federal government announced that it will not consider testing or treatment related to COVID-19 in a public charge inadmissibility determination, even if Medicaid covers the health care services.

How long do I need to stay away from church or other public places if I have had symptoms or a positive test result?

If a person has had a negative COVID-TEST they can return to church once there is no fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines and have felt well 24 hours.

If a person is diagnosed with COVID-19 by a medical professional based on a test or their symptoms or does not get COVID-19 test but has symptoms, they should not be at school and should stay home until they (or a family member) can answer yes to ALL of the following three questions:

1. Has it been at least 10 days since the individual first had symptoms?

2. Has it been at least 3 days since the individuals had a fever (without fever-reducing medicines)?
3. Has it been at least 3 days since the individual's symptoms have improved including cough and shortness of breath?

Out of an abundance of caution we also recommend streaming Mass for additional days beyond the information noted above.