

CLUSTER 28 TRANSITION COMMITTEE

St. Joseph Parish, St. Patrick Parish, St. Pius X Parish, St. Brigid School

Cluster Mass Schedule – Daily Masses

On the Back of this sheet is my final determination for a Mass schedule for the Cluster. ***This schedule will begin next summer on Monday, August 2.***

Schedule: As I have mentioned in previous communications, adjusting the daily Mass schedule to allow for fewer priests in our Cluster presented a significant challenge. At present, seven priests provide five daily Masses including the Masses offered at Frances Warde House and the Monastery of the Precious Blood. Having only three or four priests covering these would be impossible. Our priests all need a day off during the week, and we must allow for the inevitable funerals that must be covered – this winter in the Cluster we have averaged between one and four funerals a week.

Accordingly, we are committing ourselves in the new schedule to a principal daily Mass at 9am on Monday through Friday. This Mass will be at St. Pius X which is the only site which can accommodate the parking for the 100-120 people who now attend a daily Mass at 8 or 9am. We have kept two 8am Masses at St. Joseph on Friday (St. Brigid School Mass) and Saturday when parking is not an issue.

Because of numerous requests, we have added two 7am Masses for workers at St. Patrick on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. At one time in our history, all three parishes had an early Mass for those going to work. These Masses were lost in earlier restructurings of the parishes, but we hope this good tradition will be revived and that these Masses will have a reasonable attendance as they catch on. We also plan to continue our commitment in some reasonable way to Frances Warde House and the Sisters of the Precious Blood.

Mass Intentions: One of our biggest challenges is to manage the number of requests for Masses said for a particular intention, given that the number of Masses available for those intentions will be significantly fewer. Regarding the scheduling of your intentions, we especially ask your patience, compromise and generosity with each other in order that all who desire Masses said for their loved ones may have their wishes honored. To aid us in managing the scheduling of your intentions in a fair and reasonable manner, we establish the following guidelines for intentions.

Six Month Advance: For the present, we will only schedule Mass intentions for up to six months from the date on which you request them.

Multiple intentions: If you desire to have multiple (more than two) Masses said for a particular intention, only the first two of these will be celebrated at one of the Cluster Churches during a six month period. The others will be celebrated, according to long-standing Church and diocesan practice, by retired priests of the diocese and missionary priests at other churches/chapels.

We will begin scheduling your Mass intentions again for the next six months this coming Monday, April 12. For the present, each church office will schedule Mass intentions only for that church. Soon, however, we hope to have a master calendar in place that will allow you to schedule Masses at all three churches from any of the three offices. Thank you for your patience as we put these changes in place.

For now, we will continue moving forward with this new schedule in the hope that it will serve the needs of our community reasonably well. I continue to pray that members of our community who are challenged by these changes will be prayerful, positive, creative and accommodating in adjusting to them.

Please do not hesitate to communicate with me (lafortainesj@live.com) or one of the other committee members if at any time you have input you wish to share – you can call your parish or school office for contact information. Please continue to keep us and this process in your prayers.

- Fr. Jim Lafontaine

Schedule of Masses for Cluster 28

These changes will take place on August 2, 2010

Notes/Guiding Principles

*Reduce Masses so that fewer clergy can serve the Cluster
 Each Parish will lose one weekend Mass
 Provide a variety of times for Cluster members
 Ensure adequate space for attendees and parking*

Weekend

Saturday		<i>One-third of our parishioners generally attend a Saturday vigil Mass</i>
	4:00pm St. Patrick	<i>Pre-Mass confessions continue before all vigil Masses</i>
	4:30pm St. Pius X	
	5:00pm St. Joseph	<i>This time is changed so 2 priests can cover the vigil Masses when necessary</i>
		<i>(Chosen to be consistent with the Sunday 5pm)</i>
Sunday		<i>One morning Mass at each site, no conflicts with Religious Ed program</i>
	7:00am St. Pius X	
	8:00am St. Joseph	<i>Choir Mass?, RCIA</i>
	9:00-10:00am Religious Education	
	10:30am St. Patrick	
	5:00pm St. Joseph	

Daily

		<i>On a given day, between 100-120 people currently attend daily Masses</i>
Mon-Fri	9:00am St. Pius X	<i>Only site with adequate parking, priests not affected by weather issues</i>
Tues/Thur	7:00am St. Patrick	<i>Workers' Masses</i> <i>(Many working people have requested an early Mass)</i>
Friday	8:00am St. Joseph	<i>School Mass</i> <i>(open to all Cluster parishioners)</i>
Saturday	8:00am St. Joseph	
		<i>Eucharistic Adoration</i> <i>from 9:30am-5pm on Friday at St. Pius X</i>
		<i>Morning Prayer</i> <i>before 9am Mass daily</i>
		<i>Rosary</i> <i>following 9am Mass daily</i>

Holy Days

		<i>One Mass at each site</i>
vigil	5:30pm St. Patrick	
vigil	7:00pm St. Joseph	
	9:00am St. Pius X	

Funeral Masses will be celebrated at any church as requested by the family, usually at 10 or 11am
 Wedding Masses will be celebrated at any church as requested by the couple, usually mid-day on Saturday