



SAINTS JOACHIM & ANNE AND SHAKOPEE AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL



MASS INTENTION POLICY

We are reminded by the Eucharistic Prayers that every Mass is for all of us and for our loved ones who have died, as we are all part of the Communion of Saints. Offering specific Mass intentions for loved ones has been a beautiful and meaningful part of our Catholic tradition for centuries. In our parish, we have many requests for scheduling such Mass intentions. We try to honor these to the best of our ability and in accord with the Code of Canon Law for the universal Catholic Church.

The Mass Intention book for the 2021 calendar year will open on November 10 and 11, phone calls only and November 12 and 13, online at SSJACS.org
Hover over "Parish Info & Resources", scroll to "Resources & Links", and click "Mass Intention Requests" for more information.

We will accept intention request dates through December 31, 2021. Mass Intentions will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis in the Parish office. Specific Mass dates can be requested, however, if that date has already been taken, you will be contacted by the parish office to choose another date. Due to COVID-19, all Mass intentions will be said at the SJA - St. Mark Church until restrictions are lifted and we are once again able to open up the churches. We will still offer intentions for our regular Mass schedule. All Saturday Vigil and Sunday intentions will be announced at the beginning of Mass and the priests will coordinate those intentions being offered.

The following policies are put forth to allow as many parishioners as possible to schedule Mass intentions for their loved ones.

- Each household or group is allowed ***one (1) intention scheduled per month with a maximum of three (3) scheduled per calendar year***, which includes one weekend (Saturday or Sunday) and two weekday (Monday through Friday) Masses.
- A ***\$7 stipend per Mass intention***, as determined by Archdiocesan policy, is to accompany each request. A Mass offering may be more than the suggested stipend. Checks may be written to: **SJA** Memo: **Mass Intention**. If you are dropping a check in the mail or collection basket, please include a note indicating the intention requests.

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Saints Joachim & Anne 2021 Mass Intention Policy continued...

- One Mass each weekend must be designated for the intentions of our parishioners known as “Pro Populo” (for the people) as required by Canon Law and diocesan statute.
- Maximum of 10 Masses per any one intention per calendar year. Example: a specific person being prayed for by multiple different family members living at different households.
- Mass Intentions *cannot be scheduled* for the three days of the *Sacred Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday or Holy Saturday*. Mass intentions will not be accepted: *Ash Wednesday, Easter, All Saints, All Souls, and Christmas*. These Mass intentions will be for the general intentions of our priests and parishioners.
- Specific Masses can be requested, but if that date is taken, the Mass will be assigned to the closest possible date or according to the requester's preference.
- Generally the Mass intentions will be published in the parish bulletin and announced at each Mass.
 - Lengthy listings may be edited in the bulletin for the sake of brevity. Since the purpose of publishing the intention is to notify family and friends, we suggest the omission of middle initials, titles, etc.
 - The priest is under the strict obligation to remember the person for whom the Mass is being offered, and we presume that the priest will offer the Mass as requested. Since it is a spiritual act, if a verbal announcement is not made at Mass, it neither adds to nor negates from its validity.
- Anyone may request a Mass Intention for:
 - A person who is living or deceased, Catholic or non-Catholic.
 - Intentions for a particular person/people: Susie Smith, Joe & Alice Black
 - Intentions for members of a particular family/families: John Smith Family, Smith & Black Families
 - A special intention appropriate to the celebration of the Eucharist e.g.: World Peace, Vocations, Respect for Life, the poor souls in purgatory, etc. These intentions should be general and not specific to an individual.
- Please remember the Mass Intentions are a request. Once the Mass is scheduled we will do our best to celebrate the Mass on the day and time scheduled. However, Mass dates and times are subject to change due to changes in our priest's schedules and circumstances beyond our control. In this case, the next available date and time will be scheduled.

We appreciate your understanding of this policy as we try to serve you and your spiritual needs.
If you have any further questions, please contact the parish office at 952-445-1319 or
parishoffice@ssjacs.org.