

**Guidelines for Mass Outside of a
Church, Chapel, Oratory
Within the Archdiocese of St. Louis**

1. Permission for Mass in the Archdiocese of St. Louis outside of a church, chapel or oratory, must be obtained in writing from the local ordinary, i.e. the Archbishop or one of the Vicars General. The mailing address is: Cardinal Rigali Center, 20 Archbishop May Drive, St. Louis, Missouri 63119.

Canon 932: §1 The Eucharistic celebration is to be carried out in a sacred place unless in a particular case necessity requires otherwise; in such a case the celebration must be done in a decent place.

In the understanding of this canon the local ordinary, i.e. Archbishop or Vicars General, determine what is, “a suitable place”.

Canon 933: For a just cause with the express permission of the local ordinary, a priest is permitted to celebrate the Eucharist in the place of worship of some Church or ecclesial community which does not have full communion with the Catholic Church so long as there is no scandal.

2. When Mass is celebrated in a convention center, hotel, or any other public or semi-public venue on the occasion of conventions or gatherings, the liturgies must be coordinated with the Archdiocesan Office of Sacred Worship. The Office of Sacred Worship contact information is: Cardinal Rigali Center, 20 Archbishop May Drive, St. Louis, Missouri 63119, (314) 792-7231, fax: (314) 792-7239; amybuehle@archstl.org. After you have contacted our office, we will send you the liturgy forms to be filled out and work out the details. The Office of Sacred Worship must be contacted at least a month prior to the event to allow time for coordinating the event.
3. The Office of Sacred Worship is responsible for approving all Mass texts, music, and ceremonies used during the liturgies. The staff of the Office of Sacred Worship will work with the group and the site location of the Mass to coordinate the furnishings needed for Mass, which may include the group contacting the Cathedral Basilica to borrow items. The Office of Sacred Worship will provide the necessary sacred vessels, books and other items used for such liturgies (please see appendix 1 for a list of items can work in providing). There is a \$20 charge for the use of the Mass kit,

which takes care of having the vessels and linens cleaned. Each group will also be in charge of obtaining their own host and wine, or if a small amount is needed, hosts and wine can be purchased through the Office of Sacred Worship.

4. Because the arrangements in such circumstances makes spillage a greater possibility than under normal conditions and because of the difficulty involved in purifying multiple sacred vessels without a proper sacristy, communion is given only under the species of bread.

Canon 925: Holy communion is to be given under the form of the bread alone, or under both species according to the norm of the liturgical law...

Redemptonis Sacramentum: 101: In order for Holy Communion under both kinds to be administered to the lay members of Christ's faithful, due consideration should be given to the circumstances, as judged first of all by the diocesan Bishop.

With due consideration, the Archbishop has judged that Communion under both species outside of a church, chapel, or oratory presents too many concerns in the distribution of the precious Blood.

102: "...The chalice should not be ministered to lay members of Christ's faithful where there is a large number of communicants that it is difficult to gauge the amount of wine for the Eucharist and there is a danger that "more than a reasonable quantity of the Blood of Christ remain to be consumed at the end of the of the celebration." The same is true wherever access to the chalice would be difficult to arrange...wherever there is not an adequate number of sacred ministers or extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion with proper formation...

5. Reservation of the Blessed Sacrament also requires the permission of the Archbishop or one of the Vicars General.

Appendix 1: List of Mass Kit Items

The list of items may change slightly depending on the groups needs

1. Small Mass Linens
 - a. Corporal
 - b. Pall (small)
 - c. Purificators
 - d. Finger towels
2. Chasubles (Vestments)
 - a. Fr. Smith said he will send these with Mark Madden
3. 2 Ciboria
4. 1 Chalice
5. Patent
6. Cruets (for wine and water)
7. Finger Bowl (small glass dish for washing of hands)
8. Small Glass bowl---for Holy Water font
9. 2 Candles for altar, Candle followers, Candleholders
10. Matches
11. Small crucifix to set on altar
12. Binders: For Universal Prayers: one copy for Archbishop and one for Deacon
13. Roman Missal
14. Lectionary for Weekdays & Lectionary for Sundays
15. Book of the Gospel