



Catholic Family Challenge

Start children off in the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it. Proverbs 22:6

Where Can We Have Mass?



Have you ever been to Mass in a place that wasn't a normal "Church" building? Maybe Mass was celebrated in a gym, on a football field, or even at Lucas Oil Stadium. We know that the Mass is the source and summit of all the worship we take part in as Catholics. The first and best option for where Mass should be

held is in a "sacred space" like a Church building or a chapel within a building. This is what is considered the norm for Mass. However, there are allowable exceptions in the rules of the Church, called the Church Canon. When given permission, it is better for a priest and the congregation to celebrate Mass in an abnormal place than to not celebrate at all. One great example close to home is that most Catholic high schools, including Roncalli, celebrate their all school Mass in the gymnasium - because the chapel does not fit the entire school. An example of the exception from far away is how the United States military celebrates Mass every week. No matter where soldiers have been throughout history, a priest serving as the military chaplain can celebrate Mass, whether that is in a tent, on a boat, or in a field in a foreign country with few to no Catholic churches. Missionary priests in far away countries also often have to celebrate Mass wherever the people live, which hardly ever includes a church or chapel. We are incredibly blessed to live in a community with so many Catholic churches and chapels within just a few miles. Our Sunday obligation should be followed, regardless of what our weekend plans are, which is why we often have visitors at St. Jude joining us from other parishes. If you see new faces at Mass, smile and say hello to welcome them to St. Jude. This Catholic Family Challenge is to discuss with your family the most unique places you think Catholic Mass could be celebrated.

Where Can We Have Mass?

Please read the above information together and complete the assigned activity with your family. Once you have done this, fill out and sign the bottom section of this page and return to the office.

Only one page needs to be returned per family.

Student Name(s): _____

Family Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____