

Mass Stipend Policy for St. John and St. Patrick: (Effective Oct 1, 2026)

Introduction: It is a constant practice that a special "intention" is added to each mass celebrated. These mass intentions are a way to specially pray for a deceased loved one, or a special occasion in a person's life, such as a birthday or anniversary. Many of our parishioners have offered mass intentions for many years throughout the history of our parish. As a Cathedral Parish, and the site of the weekly TV Mass, we have a number of both parishioners and non-parishioners who wish to have masses offered. At St. Patrick's we have a limited number of weekly masses. There are also a number of rules under canon law on how mass intentions are to be handled. Therefore, we have to set a fair and manageable method of determining which intentions will be celebrated. This policy will help clarify the rules for mass intentions for our two parishes.

1. According to Canon Law, all mass intentions must be celebrated within one year of receipt, so we cannot schedule masses more than 12 months in advance.
2. The customary offering (stipend) for a mass is \$10. Unless otherwise specified, If money is given for "A Mass" we will take the \$10 stipend for the mass and count the remainder as a parish donation. If money is given "for masses" we will assume \$10 per mass.
3. Every Sunday, one of the masses intentions must be "Pro Populo" or "For the People." No other intentions can be scheduled for that mass. A single "Pro Populo" is shared between all parishes the pastor serves.
4. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil, and All Souls day have specific intentions prescribed by the Church. We typically cannot schedule specific intentions for those days.
5. Every registered parishioner of either parish is welcome to schedule up to 3 masses per month and up to one mass per day. Masses are scheduled on a first-come-first-serve basis. In the interests of fairness, we reserve the right to decline a request to schedule a large numbers of intentions on the same day.
6. Parishioners are welcome to request as many non-scheduled or "prepaid" mass intentions as they would like. These masses will be scheduled in any unclaimed spots beginning with the oldest requests. (This often occurs when many family members request a mass after a funeral.)
7. Non-Parishioners are welcome to request mass intentions, but **we cannot guarantee specific dates for non-parishioners**, and we cannot guarantee that those masses will be said at St. John or St. Patrick. We will do our best to schedule them as space allows. If we cannot schedule those masses at either parish, we reserve the right for those masses to be said at non-parish masses (Nursing Home/Prison) or to send those masses to other diocesan parishes, ministries, retired priests, or the missions.
8. Following a funeral mass, the next of kin may designate one additional mass intention to be said for the deceased at the parish of the funeral. This "Month's Mind" mass may 'bump' an existing scheduled mass to a new date.

It is our hope that this policy strikes a balance, making sure that all parishioners who wish to have a mass intention offered for their loved ones are able to schedule a time, while not turning away anyone who wishes to have masses offered.