

ST. FRANCIS-ST. MARY/HOLY FAMILY INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

The Communities of St. Francis-St. Mary and Holy Family follow the inclement weather policy of Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) for cancellations and delays as follows. Check the parish websites or call the office and listen to the weather related prompts. Every attempt will be made to have decisions made by 7:00 am for morning activities and 3:00 pm for evening activities.

(Because Holy Family sits on a hill which often freezes, it may be necessary to cancel Masses and events even when weather elsewhere is not dangerous.)

DAILY MASS AND MORNING PRAYER

If FCPS is closed or has a delayed opening, the week day morning Mass (or communion service) and Morning Prayer are cancelled; the Parish Office at Holy Family will open at 10:00 am. If the scheduled Mass has an announced intention, Fr. Rob will celebrate Mass at home that morning, and the intention will also be rescheduled at the next available daily Mass.

MORNING ACTIVITIES

If FCPS has a delay, morning activities are cancelled; the Parish Office will open at 10:00 am.

Any afternoon events will continue as scheduled unless otherwise notified.

WEEKDAY MEETINGS/EVENTS/FAITH FORMATION

If FCPS is closed due to inclement weather, there will be no parish activities or Faith Formation. If FCPS closes early or cancels evening activities, Faith Formation and evening meetings are cancelled.

PARISH OFFICE

If FCPS is closed or has a delayed opening, the parish office will open at 10:00 am. The parish offices follow the inclement weather policy for the Frederick County Government (not Schools). ***If the Frederick County Government offices are closed or close early for inclement weather, the parish office will also close.*** Even if the parish office is open, please call ahead if you have an appointment with one of our staff. Although the office may be open, individual staff members may not be able to come into the office.

They will make every effort to notify any one affected, but it's still best to call and check.

WEEKEND MEETINGS AND EVENTS/TYM

Cancellations and delays for weekend meetings or events will be handled on a case by case basis. If an event is scheduled to begin at 8:30 am, we would hope to make a decision by 7:00 am. If an event is scheduled for the evening, we would hope to make a decision by 3:00 pm. Sometimes that is not possible, and we ask you please to check the parish website or call the parish office before setting out.

WEEKEND MASS

Because attendance at weekend Mass is required, the standards for cancellation are much higher and will not be determined by the FCPS policy (because school is already off on the weekends).

If weekend Mass must be cancelled, it will be done in conjunction with the other parishes in the area and with the consent of the Archbishop of Baltimore. This is very rare.

Whenever possible, decisions are made by 7:00 am for morning closings and delays, and by 3:00 pm for early closings, and announced soon after. Sometimes that is not possible, and we ask you please to check the parish website or call the parish office before setting out. Please do not travel if you feel unsafe or the roads near you are not passable. The obligation to attend Mass is commuted (relieved) if you cannot attend due to bad weather even if Mass has not been cancelled.

Parish office – 301-473-4800 X 5