

Diocese of San Diego

POLICY ON MASSES OUTSIDE A ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
OR ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL

In the liturgical life of a parish community, celebrations of the Eucharist normally take place in the parish church. In responding to the spiritual needs of the faithful, the priests of the parish may also be requested to celebrate Masses in other places, such as nursing homes, jails, or other appropriate places.

On occasion, the faithful ask a priest other than one of their parish priests to celebrate Mass outside a Roman Catholic Church or Roman Catholic Chapel, for example, in their home or other appropriate place.

Without prejudice to diocesan policy on wedding and funeral Masses, Masses outside a Roman Catholic Church or Roman Catholic Chapel require permission; if parish related, they require permission of the pastor of the parish in the area where they are celebrated; if extra-parochial, they require diocesan permission in consultation with the pastor. Permission should be granted only for good pastoral reasons and provided that the place is appropriate for a religious celebration.