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Diocese of Buffalo

# Office of Communications



## Media Guidelines for covering Masses

We always welcome any journalists willing to help us spread the Good News by covering Catholic Masses, even if you can only stay for a brief portion of a Mass.

Although appropriate attire is encouraged, we realize it is not always possible on short notice. In any case, please avoid wearing hats in church.

While covering any Catholic Mass in any church, please adhere to these basic rules:

- **It is never appropriate to move across the front of the pews during Mass. Please walk to the back (or a break in the pews) each time you wish to move to the opposite front corner of a church.**
- **Do not step into the sanctuary near the altar at any time during Mass.**
- **Please avoid doing any spoken reports or 'live-shots' in a church during Mass.**

You are free to shoot photos and type on electronic devices during Mass, but please avoid distracting conversation and keep noise to a minimum. At most high profile Masses, there will usually be a representative of the church or diocese to help you get the shots and interviews you need. In most cases, the media is welcome to get video, audio and still shots from one or both front corners of the church.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Kathy Spangler  
Cell (716) 208-6913