
✠ Explore 4 ✠

ATTEND MASS ELSEWHERE

Goal: As a family, attend Mass at a Catholic church other than your own.

*“Where Jesus Christ is, there is the Catholic Church.”
— St. Ignatius of Antioch (c. 107 A.D.)*

WHAT IS IT?

We invite your family to worship at a Catholic parish other than your own — a grand cathedral, a humble mission, or a community that prays in another language — and to find there the very same Mass, the same faith, and the same Lord in the Eucharist.

The word catholic means “universal.” St. Ignatius of Antioch first called the Church “Catholic” around the year 107, because Christ’s Church is meant for everyone, everywhere. At every Mass on earth the same sacrifice is offered and the same Eucharist received. Visiting another parish lets your children see and hear that beautiful unity.

HOW TO DO IT

Choose a different parish. Consider picking one unlike your own — a cathedral, a Mass in another language, or an Eastern Catholic liturgy.

Check the Mass time on the parish website or [Masstimes.org](https://www.masstimes.org), and plan to arrive a few minutes early.

Take it in. Before Mass, look around quietly — the art, statues, and architecture each tell the story of the faith.

Worship with your whole heart. Even if the language or customs differ, the Mass is the same; follow along and pray along.

<https://www.stbarbarachurch.org/explore-4>

Submit your
Explore 4
reflection here.



WHERE AND WHEN?

Any Catholic Mass fulfills your Sunday obligation (so long as the church is in Communion with Rome - you can easily look this up), so feel free to explore. Here are a few parishes near us that each offer something different:

- ◆ **St. James Cathedral, Seattle.** The mother church of our archdiocese. Note the architecture, the music (10AM music by the Cathedral choir), and the size of the church.
- ◆ **Holy Spirit, Kent.** One parish at prayer in English, Spanish, and Swahili- pick a language!
- ◆ **Vietnamese Martyrs (Our Lady of La Vang), Tukwila.** A soaring and stunning Gothic church modeled on Saigon's cathedral, built by a refugee community; Mass in Vietnamese.
- ◆ **St. John Chrysostom Byzantine, Seattle.** An Eastern Catholic parish; here the ancient Divine Liturgy is sung, amid colorful icons. Do what others do - this Mass will feel very different, but is valid and Roman Catholics can attend and receive Eucharist!

MORE RESOURCES

- ◆ [Archdiocese of Seattle parish finder](#) — search local parishes by city, language, and Mass time.
- ◆ [Day 117: The Church Is Catholic](#) from The Catechism in a Year Podcast. Father Mike Schmitz discusses Catholicism’s universality and what it means to be Catholic.