



DIOCESE OF RALEIGH Office of Communications

7200 Stonehenge Drive Raleigh, North Carolina 27613 984-900-3200 www.dioceseofraleigh.org

Guidelines for photographers and videographers during Mass

While we love great images, we defer to the sacredness of the moment. We would rather miss the opportunity to capture a great image than disturb a sacred moment of prayer.

BEFORE

- Please dress professionally and discreetly. With exceptions for outdoor celebrations, etc., a general rule is to wear what you would wear to church. Bright colors or patterns can be distracting to attendees and participants as you move through the church during the event.
- Arrive early enough to check in with those organizing the Mass. The sacristan (lay person) or MC (clergy) can provide insight into the proceedings for visuals and can inform you of any “no go” areas or times during the Mass.

DURING

Please DON'T:

- Use a flash or a camera with sound – bright lights or a camera “click” can be very distracting in a quiet church.
- Use a “focus assist” light or LCD which can also be distracting.
- Move around unnecessarily to distract or impede the view of worshippers and/or presiders (those on the altar).
- Take photographs during the homily unless it can be done without the homilist (the person giving the homily) being distracted by your presence.

AFTER

- Please provide photos or video content within 24 hours of the event. Situations vary, however, and we can handle on a case-by-case basis if we need photos sooner or can wait more than 24 hours.
- Stay in touch. Please text your contact in the Communications Department if any questions come up during an assignment. We're here to help and do not mind.
- Not sure who to contact? Please email: officeofcommunications@raldioc.org