

ADORATION SAFETY GUIDELINES

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

Thank you for your generosity in spending time with the Lord in Adoration. Your presence is a gift to the parish. These guidelines are offered as simple reminders to help ensure a safe and peaceful environment for prayer.

If You Ever Feel Unsafe

- **Call 911 immediately.** If you are unable to do so, use the emergency button in the church (see reverse side). Do not hesitate or feel embarrassed.
- **Trust your instincts.** If something feels “off,” that is reason enough to act.
- **Do not engage or confront anyone.** Keep your distance.
- **Move to a safe location if needed,** including the bathroom near the sacristy, and lock the door.
- If you are able to do so, you may reverently take the Monstrance from the altar with you to a safe location until help arrives.

Everyday Awareness in the Church

- Be aware of your surroundings, especially if you are alone.
- Keep your phone with you and turned on.
- If you are praying near the altar, consider positioning yourself so you can easily see the main entrance.
- Feel free to ask the adorer before you to remain for a few minutes if you are uncomfortable.
- Report any concerning behavior to the parish office afterward (508-995-7600).

Arriving and Leaving (Especially at Night)

- Park in well-lit areas when possible.
- Be aware of your surroundings when walking to and from your car.
- Consider having your car keys in hand as you leave.
- You may wish to text the adorer in the church after reaching your car safely.

General Reminders

- After 7:30pm, doors are locked and only scheduled adorers with keys should be in the church.
- If you have a key and must come during overnight hours, please clearly identify yourself as an adorer so as not to alarm others.

Emergency Button (New)

A new emergency button has been installed in the church to provide an additional layer of safety.

Location: On the wall to the right of the organ console

When to Use the Button

If you are able, call 911 on your phone instead of pressing the button.

Use the emergency button if:

- You feel unsafe or in danger
- Someone is acting in a concerning or threatening way
- You are experiencing a medical emergency
- You are unable to call 911 on your phone or cannot speak safely

Do not hesitate to use it. It is always better to be safe.

How to Use It:

- Lift the clear cover and press and hold the red SOS button on the device for a few seconds.
- The device will vibrate once to indicate the alarm has been initiated, and three times to confirm it has been received and help is on the way.

What Happens When You Press It

- Pressing the button immediately alerts a 24/7 emergency response service
- They will **contact 911 right away** and request police assistance at the church
- The device has a microphone, so they can hear what is happening
- Police will be dispatched to the church

Important

- If you are able, **calling 911 directly on your phone is still the primary option**
- The emergency button is provided as an additional way to get help quickly

Our goal is to provide a safe and peaceful place for prayer. Thank you for your attentiveness to these guidelines and for your devotion to the Lord in Adoration.

