

## **Severe Weather Threat Evacuation Plan for Saint Francis of Assisi Church During Mass**

Saint Francis of Assisi Church has a Severe Weather Plan that is used to assess and respond to severe weather situations during Mass.

Severe weather evacuation maps are posted at the main entrances (east doors) to the nave.

Severe weather shelter signs are found in the hallways next to designated shelter rooms.

Our parish uses the Weathercall Enterprise System to determine the need for evacuation. This subscription service gives more precise storm path information than NWS warnings.

If the church area is under a Severe Weather Watch:

Prior to the beginning of Mass, the Priest or designate will announce that parish officers are monitoring and preparing for the possibility of severe weather. If the congregation needs to seek shelter, the Ushers and Greeters are ready to assist and direct you to designated shelter areas.

In the event of an eminent Severe Weather Threat:

Ushers will lead the parishioners across the gathering space and down the South and North hallways toward the school and the designated shelter areas. Parishioners will first fill the designated shelter areas furthest away (school), then progressively back toward the church (westward). Ushers or Greeters will assist the handicapped to the North or South restrooms for shelter and remain there for any needed assistance.

Everyone should remain in the shelter areas until the ALL CLEAR signal.

Safe and Secure Committee