

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH
Fire Safety Instructions Upon Hearing the Fire Bells Ringing

While it is very unlikely that it will ever occur, if you are in the Church and the fire bells start ringing you must leave the Church immediately. Stay calm and proceed to the closest emergency exit. Please follow any directions of the ushers.

Emergency fire vehicles will have already left the fire station and will be on their way to the Church.

As you leave the Church move away from the building, people will need room to leave behind you and fire personnel will need access.

If you leave the Church from the southwest emergency exit (on your left when facing the altar) proceed straight across the parking lot and gather on the lawn in front of the fence. If you leave the Church from the front entrance please gather on the front lawn below the Prayer Garden.

If the Children's Liturgy is in progress when the fire bells ring, children attending the liturgy downstairs will already be leaving the building using the northwest emergency exit stairwell from the basement hall. They will be safe, under the supervision of the liturgy leaders, and waiting for their parents on the lawn across the parking lot in front of the fence. Ushers will confirm that the basement areas, including the washrooms, have been safely evacuated.

DO NOT START YOUR CAR AND DRIVE ON TO THE CHURCH DRIVEWAYS OR THORN LODGE DRIVE. YOU COULD IMPEDE THE PROGRESS OF RESPONDING EMERGENCY VEHICLES. YOU MAY ALSO RUN THE RISK OF HITTING AND INJURING A FELLOW PARISHIONER OR CHILD EXITING THE CHURCH.

Once you have left the Church no one can re-enter until the Fire Department gives the all clear for re-entry.

When evacuating the Church, please remember that you need not exit the same way in which you entered the Church. Those seated in the front third of the pews closest to the altar should exit via the southwest emergency exit by walking toward it through the pews rather than using the aisles.

In summary when the fire bells start ringing immediately leave the Church. Stay calm and proceed to your closest exit.

October 2012