



Ice & Snow Removal Policy

Parish of St. Ann in Charlotte

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to promote the safety of parishioners, staff, volunteers, and visitors by establishing procedures for the timely removal of snow and ice from church property.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all church-owned walkways, entrances, steps, parking areas, driveways, and other pedestrian and vehicle accessible surfaces.

3. General Policy

The Church will make reasonable efforts to maintain safe access to facilities during winter weather conditions. However, due to the unpredictable nature of snow and ice, surfaces may remain slippery despite these efforts. All individuals are expected to exercise personal caution.

4. Snow Removal – Walkways & Entrances

- Snow removal operations will begin as soon as practicable following the onset or cessation of snowfall.
- Priority will be given to:
 1. Main entrances
 2. Primary walkways
 3. Accessible entrances (ADA-compliant paths)
- Only designated, cleared walkways should be used
- Areas not yet cleared should be avoided

5. Ice Control – Walkways (Salting/Sanding)

- Salt, sand, or other de-icing materials will be applied to walkways, steps, and entrances as needed
- Reapplication will occur as conditions warrant
- Treated surfaces may still be slippery; caution is always required
- Parishioners are encouraged to report hazardous icy areas to church staff promptly

6. Parking Lot Snow Removal

- Snow plowing of parking lots will be performed as conditions require, typically after accumulation reaches a manageable depth or following the end of a storm.

- Priority will be given to:
 1. Main entrance drives
 2. Primary parking areas
 3. Fire lanes and emergency access routes
- Snow may be piled in designated areas to allow safe vehicle and pedestrian movement
- During active snowfall, parking areas may not be fully cleared. Please use caution when entering and exiting the property.

7. Parking Lot Ice Control

- Salt, sand, or other ice-control materials will be applied to parking lots, drive lanes, and high-traffic areas (e.g., near entrances and handicap spaces)
- Special attention will be given to slopes, intersections, and shaded areas prone to refreezing
- Despite treatment, icy conditions may persist, especially during freezing temperatures

8. Safety Guidelines for Parishioners and Visitors

- Wear appropriate footwear with non-slip soles
- Walk slowly and take small, deliberate steps
- Use handrails where available
- Remain on cleared and treated pathways
- Exercise caution when walking in parking lots, particularly between vehicles
- Assist elderly or mobility-limited individuals when possible

9. Volunteers and Assistance

- Authorized staff and volunteers may assist with snow and ice removal efforts
- Individuals wishing to volunteer should coordinate with the parish office
- Volunteers should follow established safety procedures and use proper equipment

10. Limitations and Disclaimer

While every reasonable effort will be made to maintain safe conditions, the Church cannot always guarantee completely ice-free or hazard-free surfaces. Conditions may change rapidly, and all persons assume responsibility for their own safety when on church property.

11. Reporting Hazards

Any unsafe conditions, including untreated ice, obstructed walkways, or hazardous parking areas, should be reported immediately to parish staff or the parish office

12. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed periodically and updated as necessary to ensure effectiveness and alignment with best practices.

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