New Bedford Police share parking bans, shuttle service for seniors info, and safety reminders ahead of Feast of the Blessed Sacrament

SRTA buses will provide free shuttle service for senior citizens from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 4 from Lincoln School, 445 Ashley Boulevard, to the feast grounds.

A parking ban will be in effect along the entire parade route, including Tinkham Street between Madeira Avenue and Hope Street and Hope Street between Tinkham Street and Nash Road.

This ban will be strictly enforced. Vehicles will be towed if necessary. New Bedford Police reminds everyone to stay safe during the feast. Remain aware of your surroundings and notify security personnel if you see anything suspicious.

Items prohibited on the feast grounds include weapons of any kind, backpacks, coolers, large bags, outside food and beverages, cans or bottles, marijuana and other illegal drugs.

Other prohibited items include: Signs or banners that obstruct views or may seem offensive in nature; bulky outfits that extend beyond the body perimeter; noisemakers, horns and laser pointers; costumes or clothing that cover the face; pepper spray and mace; and animals.

Service dogs and baby food and supplies are allowed on the grounds. All bags, strollers and individuals are subject to search.

Keep the following advice in mind as well:

Drink responsibly and don't drink and drive. If you plan to drink, have a designated driver or call a cab. Remember that heat can exacerbate the affects of alcohol.

Be courteous of the neighbors. Drive slowly, do not park across driveways and try to remain quiet when entering or exiting the feast grounds.

Be respectful of fellow feast-goers. Crowds can get large and lines can be long. Be patient, be polite and enjoy.