St. James Parish

May 14, 2021

Dear parishioners,

We know that this past year has been exceedingly difficult on you in many, many different ways. We see and hear your burdens and as your priests we wish to accompany you always to assure you that God sees and hears your burdens too. You are not alone. Our faith which reminds us of this truth and the mass is a concrete way in which God reminds us that we are not alone.

We are implementing one of the options that the Diocese has provided in the liturgical guidelines released last week. Instead of a drive-in Mass, the parish is going to celebrate the Rite of Distribution of Holy Communion Outside of the Mass in the church,15 people at a time.

These Communion services will occur after each mass for about half an hour. For example, mass at 8 AM will end by 8:45 AM approximately and communion will go from 8:45 AM to 9:15 AM. If communion takes longer than the allotted time, then we will distribute until there is no one left.

Communion Service Times for St. James:

Saturday 5:45 PM-6:15 PM Sunday 8:45 PM-9:15 PM Sunday 10:45 PM-11:15 PM Sunday 5:45 PM-6:15 PM

Communion Service Times for St. Michael:

Saturday 5:45 PM-6:15 PM Sunday 9:45 PM-10:15 PM

This format will provide a more dignified way of receiving our Lord in the Most Holy Eucharist properly in the church.

We will still have our regular mass times and we encourage you to come to St. James or St. Michaels to listen to our audio livestream through the FM transmitter as mass is going on. For those families who have young children and find it difficult to celebrate in your cars, we invite you to watch a livestream at home or to pray with the daily readings and then come to the Church afterwards.

Once mass is completed, we invite you, directed by our ushers, to come into the main entrance of the Church (15 people at a time) in order to receive communion. Our ushers will invite 15 people to come into the Church, while another group of 15 people wait outside in their cars.

Regarding the space in the Church for 15 people, we ask those who have already been to mass indoors (weekday or weekend) to please give others the opportunity to attend mass in person. Indoor mass attendance is on a first come first serve basis and no registration is needed.

We ask you to receive the Eucharist according to the protocols outlined by the diocese by wearing masks and social distancing. After you have received the Eucharist, we invite you to

please pray in your vehicles by taking a moment of silence to give thanks for the gift of the Eucharist.

We thank you so much for your patience, your perseverance and your love for the Eucharist. We were so edified to see so many people come to mass last week in the snow and rain. Please pray for us and our Diocese as we try to navigate these difficult times with charity.

May God bless you all.

Fr. Vincent TuanHa

Fr. Troy Nguyen