

# ***St. James the Apostle –Mass Protocol as of May 22, 2021 - Due to COVID 19***

Following CDC guidance and direction from the Atlanta Archdiocese, the following changes to the COVID-19 Safety Protocols for attending Mass are effective immediately or as indicated below:

- **Archbishop Hartmayer has lifted the dispensation** from the obligation to participate at Mass, effective May 22, 2021, unless:
  - You are ill or have a health condition that would be significantly compromised if you were to contract a communicable illness.
  - You are experiencing flu-like symptoms.
  - You have been exposed to someone who has tested positive or you have reason to think you might be asymptomatic of a contagious illness.
  - You are a caregiver for the sick, homebound, or infirm.
  - You are pregnant.
  - You are 65-years-old or older (per the CDC's recommendation of high-risk individuals).
  - You cannot attend Mass through no fault of your own.
  - You have significant fear or anxiety of becoming ill by being at Mass.
- **Face Masks are not required in the building and church for fully-vaccinated persons.**
- **Face Masks are required to be worn over the nose and mouth of those not vaccinated and those living with those who are immune comprised or at high risk.**
- Holy Communion will continue to be ministered only in the hand. This remains a temporary suspension of our normal practice.
- All Church Pews will be available for parishioner use during Mass. It is recommended that you maintain an appropriate distance between non-household members.
- The Holy Water fonts have been replenished.
- Hymnals, envelopes and other aides will return to pew holders.
- Extra seating (with 6' distance) will be available in the parish hall.
- The Holy Mass will continue to be transmitted via radio to vehicles and Holy Communion will be ministered in the canopy area.
- The offertory drop boxes will continue to be available, with a new box to be added outside for our vehicle attendees.
- The Cry Room option will be available for parents who need to avail of this facility.
- All greetings inside and outside will remain touchless/contactless.
- Our Sunday Choirs will return. Congregational singing is not encouraged at this time.