

COVID-19 UPDATE

A Message from the office of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Are you ready? We can't wait to see you. St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church is ready to re-open. We want to assure you that we have taken extra care this week to ensure that our church building has been thoroughly cleaned.

The Chapel will re-open on Friday, May 1, 2020 for private prayer.

The Church will re-open beginning Saturday, May 2, 2020 for 5:00 p.m. Mass and all other regularly scheduled Masses on Sunday.

Daily Mass will resume on Monday, May 4, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

Confession will resume on Saturday, May 2 at 4:00 p.m. or by appointment, please contact the parish office at 281-837-8180 to schedule an appointment.

Please remember we will continue to practice safe social distancing while in the church. Please read below guidelines:

- The obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days remains suspended in the Archdiocese during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The following individuals are asked to remain at home and not attend Mass: Those who may be ill; suffer from chronic health conditions; have a compromised immune system; are over the age of 60; or are uncomfortable attending Sunday Mass due to concerns over the Coronavirus (COVID-19) are encouraged to remain at home and not attend Mass.
- You may continue to watch Sunday, Saturday or daily Mass online by visiting www.archgh.org/onlinemass.
- Parishioners are required to wear a facemask.
- Upon entering the church, there will be antibacterial hand sanitizer available for your use. Please feel free to use before and after Mass.
- Please do not congregate in the vestibule, please take a seat immediately.
- In greeting parishioners before and after Mass, avoid handshakes and other bodily contact.

- The offertory basket(s) will not be passed during Mass. You will find the offertory basket(s) at the back of the Church at the credence table. You are also welcome to mail your offertory envelope or donations to the parish office or by giving online at <https://stjohnbaytown.org/give>.
- Discontinue the holding or shaking of hands at the Our Father and Sign of Peace. A bow, wave, or saying “Peace be with you” is acceptable.
- Please pay attention to markers on the floor, pews, maintain a 6-foot distance, and listen to the staff/volunteers as they seek to assist in providing for you in a safe and suitable manner.
- Distribution of Communion will be as follows: distribution of the Precious Blood will be discontinued at Mass. Distribution of **Communion will be given in the hand only**. Distribution on the tongue will be discontinued. Please be understanding. There will be a single file of communicants lining up 6-feet apart. Please pay attention to the markers on the main aisle to practice social distancing.
- Holy water fonts are empty.

Should we decide to make changes to our current plans, we will let you know quickly through the church website, social media, and as many other avenues as possible.

Due to recommendations from health and government officials regarding the spread of COVID-19, the office will remain closed until further notice.

If you have an emergency, you may call the office at 281-837-8180. If you have questions please email office@stjohnbaytown.org and a staff member will be able to assist you.