



The Shell

An e-letter for

Saint James the Greater Church,

3565 Hubble Road

Cincinnati, Ohio 45247

December 1, 2020,

Christmas Season Masses

We are all anticipating a different Christmas celebration this year. Necessary precautions about the pandemic will probably be increased because of the anticipated surge in the spread. Please begin planning now how you might be incorporating participation in Mass in your plans this year. These are some points that may help you in your considerations.

We cannot handle the crowds seen at Christmas Masses in the past.

We will have to limit the number of people allowed in the church. We are obligated to continue following the regulations from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati about limiting the number of people in the church and observing the other safety measure. (see below) We must take every possible step to keep people safe and that means significantly reducing the number of people in the church.

Please consider participating by livestream at our parish website.

We will livestream the Masses at 3:00 p.m. Christmas Eve, 10:00 a.m. Christmas Day, the usual Sunday (December 27) 10:00 a.m. and the 10:00 a.m. on New Year's Day. The Masses are archived on the website so you can also watch any time after the Mass is completed.

We strongly urge everyone who feels it is absolutely necessary to participate in person to do so throughout the 4 days of Christmas weekend and at the Masses for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God on New Year's. Pick a day other than Christmas to come to Mass.

Requirements:

1. Masks are mandatory following the state guidelines.
2. Sanitizing one's hands is required as one enters the church.
3. Proper 6 ft distancing is to be followed when entering and leaving the building. No congregating to greet each other is permitted.
4. Only those pews that are **not** roped off may be used. This means our capacity may not exceed 250-300 people, depending on the family units present.
5. Family units living together may sit together. Those not living together must be properly spaced 6 ft from anyone else.
6. Protocols for receiving Communion must be followed. This includes receiving Communion in the hand only.

Reminders:

1. The dispensation from participating in Sunday Mass also includes Christmas and New Year's.
2. Anyone who is at higher risk due to medical conditions, age, etc. should not come to church.
3. Anyone who is sick or has symptoms of sickness should realize it is their obligation to stay home.

Christmas Masses

December 24	3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.
December 25	10:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon

Feast of the Holy Family

December 26	4:30 p.m.
December 27	8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

December 31	4:30 p.m.
January 1	10:00 a.m.

God bless and stay well.
Father Nolker