



The Shell

An e-letter for

Saint James the Greater Church,
3565 Hubble Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45247

July 29, 2020

Dear Friends,

We keep adjusting our reactions to the pandemic. I think we have gotten used to the wearing of masks when we are not at our own homes. I think we are fairly comfortable with the social distancing of 6 feet. But as we move ahead, new issues arise.

We are now implementing a new regulation here at the parish:

From now on, there will be a limit of 4 people in the church elevator.

It makes no sense to jam people in the elevator, many with their canes and walkers. Some have even taken their masks off instead of waiting until they are in their cars. Even before the Covid situation, I would caution people about crowding in the elevator. There is no special prize if somebody is on the first trip down after Mass. There is no limit to the number of trips it can make. Safety has always been a concern, and now it is even more critical. Do not crowd the elevator! No more than 4 people per ride.

While thinking about spacing, when arriving first and sitting in a long pew, please move to the middle so others can take the end seats. If the first person to arrive takes the end seat, usually the middle seat is left unused. It is polite to keep the end seats open.

I was asked when the dispensation for participating in Sunday Mass expires. Some people thought it was the end of August. The dispensation lasts until the archbishop revokes it.

I have also been asked about Masses with the school children. When school resumes, we will have Mass for students on Wednesdays. But there are no all-school Masses. Grades 2, 3 and 4 will come one week. Grades 5 & 6 the next week. And grades 7 & 8 the third week. This will allow for social distancing for all of them.

Father Nolker