

St. John Vianney Catholic Church

Health and Safety Guidelines

Effective May 15, 2021

On April 25, 2021, our bishop, Most Rev. Joe Vásquez issued a Pastoral Letter to the faithful of our diocese. Effective May 23, 2021, all temporary health and safety protocols for the celebration of sacraments previously mandated by the Diocese of Austin have been rescinded. Each parish will now determine what protocols, if any, will remain. Additionally, the temporary dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass has also been rescinded. **Effective May 15, 2021**, the following protocols will be in effect at St. John Vianney until further notice:

Sunday Mass Attendance: The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass will be lifted May 23rd. This means that attendance at Sunday Mass and Holy Days is obligatory for all Catholics. However, the general teaching of the Church states that for a serious reason one may be dispensed from the Sunday obligation. Please click [here](#) to see the bishop's letter for further explanation. If you are ill, please stay home.

Arriving at Mass: All doors will be open and accessible to parishioners. Hand sanitizer is available for your use.

Center Section: The center sections of the church (in front of the altar and near the baptismal font) are reserved for social distancing. Masks are **required** in this section.

Offertory: Ushers will bring collection baskets to parishioners

Holy Communion: Ministers will bring Holy Communion to parishioners in their seats. Please remain kneeling or stand to receive Holy Communion.

Transepts (North & South): All pews will be available for seating in the North and South transepts (side sections of the church). Masks are **not required** in these sections. Please maintain 3 feet of distance between households.

Offertory: The offertory baskets will be passed among parishioners as we did prior to the pandemic.

Holy Communion: Parishioners will come forward to receive Holy Communion as we did prior to the pandemic.

Dismissal: Parishioners will no longer need to wait to be dismissed. All are encouraged to maintain appropriate social distancing when exiting.

Live streaming: The 11am Mass on Sundays will continue to be live-streamed until September 5, 2021. Live streaming of daily Mass will be discontinued on Friday, May 28th.

Thank you for your continued patience, kindness, and charity to one another. It is important that we, as disciples of Christ, treat one another with respect and understanding at all times. Please continue to pray for one another.