## REOPENING GUIDELINES AND BEST PRACTICES FOR MOST HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH WITH GUIDANCE FROM DIOCESE of SAVANNAH

Our first Mass is Monday, May 25, 2020, at 12:15pm.
We strongly encourage people to attend Daily Mass
instead of Sunday Mass.

Daily Mass is at 12:15pm Tuesday-Friday except for Monday, May 25, 2020.

### **General Principles**

- A. CENTRALITY OF THE EUCHARIST The Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life (LG, 11)" and so we must make it as available as possible within the constraints forced upon us by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- B. SUBSIDIARITY Each pastor makes the decision based on his circumstances.
- C. COMMON GOOD The directives of the legitimate civil and ecclesiastical authorities and the theology of the church are taken into account not only for parishes but also for the sake of the broader community. At this time all gatherings, meeting, Bible studies, etc. have been suspended.

# D. FLEXIBILITY & ADHERENCE TO GOVERNMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Handicap/wheelchair access is available in the two front pews. Based on the layout of the pews (sides and two middle aisles), they have been taped off based on the social distancing rule of the government (six feet apart). Please do NOT tamper or remove the tape.

E. SUSPENSION OF THE SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended through Sunday, June 28, 2020. This will be revisited towards the end of June. If parishioners are in the higher risk category due to current illness, age or suffering a chronic health condition or compromised immune system, please remain at home. Please be aware of the risk to yourself and others should you choose to come to Mass.

These guidelines will change and be amended as needed.

#### MASS

- 1. The following are guidelines for Holy Communion:
- a. No distribution of the Precious Blood. Only the Host is distributed for Holy Communion.
- b. Receiving Holy Communion in the hand is preferred but receiving on the tongue is not denied.
- c. Holy Communion is distributed by sections (e.g. side pews, then center aisle, etc.) Please follow the directions given by Fr. Mariusz during Mass.
- d. Tape is marked on the floor for six feet social distancing while processing to Holy Communion.
- 2. No holy water in the fonts.
- 3. No sign of peace.
- 4. No altar servers or adult altar servers.
- 5. No offertory processions.
- a. Baskets are placed in the holy water fonts.
- 6. No hand holding at the Lord's Prayer.
- 7. All hymnals are removed.
- 8. Cry room is closed.
- 9. There is no standing in back of the church or in the narthex.

### B. CONFESSIONS

- 1. Confessions resume on Tuesday & Thursday from 11am-12pm & Saturday from 3:30pm-4:30pm.
- 2. Social distancing is in effect while standing in line.

Face masks are optional but strongly encouraged. Please know there are risks by participating in public in church.

Sincerely: Fr. Mariusz Fuks Pastor of MHT