

St. Michael the Archangel

100 Oak Drive South
Lake Jackson, Texas 77566
979-297-3041
www.smlj.org

Dear Parish Family,

It has been a few weeks since the COVID restrictions that were placed upon us for more than a year were relaxed. A good number of parishioners expressed their relief and approval of the decision to do away with masks and social distancing. I for one, was especially relieved to not have to wear a mask during the celebration of the mass. It was really uncomfortable for me talking and projecting while wearing the mask.

But over and above all the relief of not wearing masks and no more social distancing, is the joy that I feel seeing the return of those members of our parish who were not comfortable attending in person during the height of the pandemic. They have been slowly and consistently joining those who have been attending in person and we are filling up the pews in our parish on Sunday masses as we praise and worship together as St Michael's parish community. I see the gatherings as a celebration of our oneness with God and one another. As one returnee commented, "We watched the online masses on YouTube every Sunday but it is different than being here with my fellow brothers and sisters!" And I added to that comment, "Sure it is different because here you are receiving Jesus in communion, food for our souls!"

We are still slowly moving toward the fullness of our parish life and functions. And I know with God's blessings and graces we will get there. Yes there is still the danger of the disease and that is why we continue to pray for an end to it, but I am grateful for what we are allowed to do and can do during this time!

God bless you!

Fr. Dwight