



**THE ROMAN CATHOLIC  
ARCHDIOCESE OF PORT OF SPAIN**  
**Health, Safety and Environment Team**  
c/o Archbishop's House, 27 Maraval Road, Port of Spain

Bulletin # 8

**Attending Mass & Receiving Holy Communion  
While Seated in a Vehicle**

**Date of Issue: October 30, 2020**

## **Overview**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, it would be safe, from a public health perspective, for communicants to listen in to Mass and receive Holy Communion, while still seated in a vehicle.

Good weather and resources permitting, this will also require co-ordination between each Parish's Security officers and Hospitality and Eucharistic ministers to identify dedicated parking bays close to the church building. Under the direction of a Hospitality minister, Eucharistic ministers should be escorted directly to the vehicles and distribute Holy Communion onto the out-stretched palms of the communicants, through the open car window.

## **Protocol**

The following procedures are to be observed:

1. Those attending Mass while seated in a car should do so with the same reverence as if they are seated in the church and should not be the source of noise or distraction to those seated in the church.
2. Those seated in a car should wear a face mask before and during the Mass, removing it only to place the host in the mouth.
3. Communicants seated in a vehicle must sanitize their hands immediately before receiving Holy Communion.
4. The Eucharist minister must be careful not to make physical contact with any surface on the vehicle or the communicant directly. Should this inadvertently occur, the Minister must pause the distribution and perform hand hygiene with alcohol-based hand sanitizer. The Hospitality minister accompanying the Eucharist should be observant in this regard.
5. The Hospitality minister or another person should hold an umbrella over the Eucharistic minister as protection for the Eucharist from the elements.

These arrangements for attending Mass and receiving Holy Communion while seated in a car will be reviewed after they have been in place for a period of two weeks.

**END**