



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS
Office of Communications and Planning

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Contact:

Peter Frangie

314.792.7633

peterfrangie@archstl.org

COVID-19 Exposure Warning: St. Mary of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Villa Ridge, Mo. and St. James Catholic Church in Catawissa, Mo.

ST. LOUIS - The Franklin County Health Department has informed the Archdiocese of St. Louis that a member of St. Mary of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Villa Ridge and of St. James Catholic Church of Catawissa has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. The person who tested positive was part of an evening prayer group at St. Mary of Perpetual Help on Thursday, August 20. The person then distributed Holy Communion at 5 p.m. Mass at St. Mary of Perpetual Help on Saturday, August 22, and at 8 a.m. Mass on Sunday, August 23. The person then went to 10 a.m. Mass at St. James in Catawissa on Sunday and distributed Holy Communion there.

The Franklin County Health Department asks that anyone who attended any of those Masses, or the prayer group, please self-quarantine for 14 days. Self-quarantine includes staying away from family members.

St. Mary of Perpetual Help and St. James will be suspending public Mass through the next two weekends, but parishioners are encouraged to attend Holy Mass via livestream.

The Archdiocese of St. Louis asks for prayers for the person who tested positive, as well as for the parish communities of St. Mary of Perpetual Help and St. James.

Please direct any questions to Peter Frangie at (314)258-6444 or peterfrangie@archstl.org

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