

**May 19, 2021
Updated Guidelines**

I. General Guidelines

- a. Mask Guidelines
 - i. Masks are not required outside on church property
 - ii. Masks are not required inside on church property for those who are fully vaccinated
 - iii. Masks are required indoors on church property for those who are not fully vaccinated
 - iv. People are on an honor system. Checking vaccinations records are not required
 - v. Vaccinated people are welcome to continue wearing masks
- b. Social distancing is not required on church property inside or outside
 - 1. All pews available for seating
- c. No Mass registration systems are required
- d. Outdoor Masses are allowed for the remainder of the year
- e. Church bulletins are allowed
- f. Holy items, cards, and books are permitted
- g. At least one weekend Mass should be livestreamed
- h. Holy Water fonts remain empty
- i. Clean facilities before and after weekend Masses but not in between weekend Masses
 - i. Church bathrooms should be open and cleaned before weekend Masses start and after the last weekend Mass
- j. Signs are no longer required on church doors or inside churches
- k. Parish or Private functions must follow state guidelines
 - i. There are no additional restrictions for these events beyond what the state mandates
 - ii. The state is planning to publish new indoor sector guidelines on May 19th

II. Mass

- a. Missals may be placed in the pews
 - i. disposable worship aids are still the preferred method of publication
- b. 8 person choirs plus instrumentalists allowed
 - 1. Vaccinated choir members do not have to wear a mask
 - 2. Unvaccinated choir members must wear a two-layer mask
 - 3. Social distancing is not required
- b. Congregational singing is allowed
- c. Masks are not required in processions and recessions
- d. No limit on altar servers
 - 1. Altar servers are permitted to hold the book for the celebrant
- e. No restrictions on the use of Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
- f. Masks are not required in the sanctuary except for who are not vaccinated

- g. The celebrant is not required to wear a mask
- h. Collection baskets are allowed
- i. Offertory processions are allowed
- j. Ciborium lids no longer need to remain on until the distribution of Holy Communion
- k. The exchange of the sign of peace is optional
 - 1. If parishioners exchange of the sign of peace, then the sign of peace must be a non-contact gesture (bow)
- l. Processions (e.g. Corpus Christi) are allowed outside without masks

III. Procedures for the distribution of Holy Communion

- a. Social distancing is not required for Communion lines
 - 1. Two Communion lines in the center aisle are permitted
- b. For those wearing masks, they should be removed just before receiving Holy Communion and then put back on after receiving
- c. Masks are required for everyone distributing Holy Communion
- d. Sanitize hands before distributing Holy Communion and after the final person receives
- e. Sanitizing hands in between communicants is required when someone receives on the tongue or if the person distributing Communion inadvertently touches the communicant's hand
- f. Kneelers no longer must be cleaned in between communicants
- g. Communion is only given under one species – consecrated hosts
- h. The celebrant's chalice must not be shared
 - i. Concelebrants should receive by intinction from a separate chalice
 - ii. Deacons should only receive the consecrated host or from a separate chalice

IV. Procedures for other liturgical and sacramental celebrations

- a. Sacrament of Reconciliation
 - i. Masks are required for those who are not vaccinated
 - ii. Social distancing is not required
 - iii. Sanitization procedures are not required
- b. Weddings and Funerals
 - i. The same guidelines above for Mass apply to weddings and funerals
 - ii. The bride and groom are not required to wear masks