

Updated Covid-19 provisions for churches in the Archdiocese of Mobile
Approved for use Monday, April 19, 2021

Since so many parishioners are knowledgeable about Covid-19 and so many have been vaccinated, it may be an appropriate time to give greater latitude regarding participating at Mass. Therefore, these new provision are effective Monday in the Archdiocese of Mobile:

First, the following are required in all churches:

Masks are urged for all attending Mass.

All liturgical ministers and ushers are to wear masks unless speaking to the congregation.

In at least one-half of the church seating must be social distanced.

Anyone distributing Holy Communion is to sanitize their hands and wear masks.

Hand sanitizer is to be readily available in all churches.

Second, the following provisions are approved, however, pastors may adapt the following provisions due to local circumstances:

Hymnals may be returned to pews.

Bulletins may be distributed.

Offertory collection by passing baskets and offertory procession may be resumed.

Holy Water may be returned to church fonts.

Choirs may resume but the number of participants is to be limited. Face masks or shields are to be used by the choir when they are not socially distanced.

Congregational singing no longer needs to be limited.

The venerable tradition of the Sign of Peace is to resume. People may choose to shake hands or some other sign.

Extra cleaning or sanitizing of pews is no longer required.