

Obligation to Attend Sunday Mass Reinstated

On Friday, May 14th, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati (and the Catholic Conference of Bishops of Ohio) announced that "beginning with the Sunday Masses of June 6, 2021 (including the anticipatory Mass on Saturday, June 5), Archbishop Schnurr is reinstating the obligation to attend Sunday and Holy Day Mass for the faithful of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati."



Below is a brief summary of some of the
adjustments we will be making at St. Clare

BEGINNING June 5/6, 2021 (Corpus Christi):

- **SEATING:**

- ~The Salvia Wing will continue to be roped off every other pew.
- ~The front half of church will remain roped off every other pew.
- ~The back half of church will be fully open.

This way, folks can decide to sit socially distanced in Salvia or the front half, or much closer together for the back pews. This may adjust in the future as more people return to Mass in person.

- **MASKS:**

- ~Masks are no longer required if you are fully vaccinated, but everyone has the option to wear one if they choose.

- **Hand Sanitizers** will still be available at all of the entrances.
- **The live stream** will always be available for all of our liturgies.

**Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.
More adjustments will happen gradually over time.**



COVID-19

Updates from
our Parish

Governor Mike DeWine announced at a press conference on Wednesday, May 12th, that all of Ohio's current COVID-19 health mandates will expire as of Wednesday, June 2nd, but mentioned that local communities and businesses may continue to have different policies.

The CDC shortly thereafter announced new guidelines for vaccinated individuals.

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All of this was a lot of change in a short period of time and guidelines along the way have not necessarily been the most clear or easily understood. While many people have been ready for a complete return to normalcy, many others are proceeding more cautiously as the pandemic continues.

We should keep in mind that there are vulnerable people of our society who are unable to be vaccinated for varying reasons (age, allergy, medical treatments, etc.). While we cannot live our lives fully when giving into fear, we should always be considerate and respectful of the dignity and life of all people and know that the pandemic continues despite the progress our country has made. Catholic Social Teaching themes call us to respect all life at all stages, to be responsible when making decisions that affect our own lives and the lives of those around us, and to care for all creation.

St. Clare has considered all of the above. Fr. George addressed the parish at last weekend's Masses, and soon you will find updated COVID-19 info in the bulletins and on our website.

Below is a brief summary of some of the adjustments we will be making at St. Clare *BEGINNING June 5/6, 2021 (Corpus Christi)*:

- The Salvia Wing will continue to be roped off for social distancing (5 of the 9 pews used, with handicapped seating in the front pew).
- As for the seating of the main body of church, the front half of both sides will still be every other pew, but the back halves of those 2 sections will be fully open.
- This way, folks can decide to sit socially distanced in Salvia or the front half, or much closer together for the back pews. This may adjust in the future as more people return to Mass in person.
- Beginning June 5/6, masks are no longer required in church if you are fully vaccinated, but everyone has the option to wear one if they choose. It is important to be honest, personally responsible, and respectful of those around you.
- Hand sanitizers will still be available at all of the entrances.
- The live stream will always be available for all of our liturgies.

Please note that many safety protocols that were instituted during the pandemic are not yet returning to normal in the Archdiocese. For instance, wine from the chalice will not yet be distributed to the assembly, hand sanitizer is still needed for distributors of communion, no offertory procession of the gifts, no collection of offerings except at designated locations at the doors of church, no physical touch between people of different households during the Lord's Prayer or Sign of Peace, as well as many other adjustments that remain in place for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. As we progress through the summer and if the pandemic continues to improve, undoubtedly more easing of protocols will happen over time.