

In an Executive Order, May 13, Gov. Andy Beshear lifted the mask and social distancing mandates for fully vaccinated persons. According to the Centers for Disease Control people are considered fully vaccinated:

- 1) two weeks after their second dose in a two-dose series such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or
- 2) a week after the single dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine.

Anyone not meeting these requirements, regardless of age, are NOT fully vaccinated, according to the CDC.

After reviewing Gov. Beshear's executive order, the following diocesan protocols have been updated and will take effect immediately:

— Fully vaccinated persons may attend Mass and other liturgical services without wearing a mask.

— In accordance with this new order, each pastor may determine how best to accommodate seating so that as many parishioners can safely return to the celebration of Mass.

Anyone wishing to continue to wear a mask for his or her own safety or peace of mind is certainly welcome to do so.

Persons who are not fully vaccinated — including priests, deacons and other ministers at the altar — must continue to wear a mask and social distance.

“Due to the sacrifices and courage of so many people to follow safety protocols and to be vaccinated as soon as the opportunity was available to them, it now seems like the day we have long hoped and prayed — the end of the pandemic — is nearing in the Diocese of Covington,” said Bishop Roger Foys. “I encourage those who are reluctant to be vaccinated to prayerfully consider doing so. I also ask everyone, at the direction of Pope Francis, to during this month of May continue praying the rosary every day for an end to the global pandemic.”

All other “Safety at Mass” protocols remain in effect.