

Parish Directives Regarding Face Coverings

Indiana Governor Holcomb's executive order outlining statewide face covering requirements includes the following exemption: "any person attending or engaged in a religious service as he or she must already maintain six feet of social distancing from another person not in the same household." Therefore, it is the Diocese of Evansville's policy to highly encourage but not require the use of face coverings during the celebration of Mass, and it is left up to individual parishes to determine if they wish to adopt stricter requirements. Please note, however, that *other parish events and meetings are subject to the face covering requirement.*

Regarding the celebration of Mass at our Parish, *face coverings are required at the 5:00 pm Saturday Mass.* However, *at the Sunday Masses or during the daily Masses, face coverings are not required, although they are highly encouraged.* If you are attending the 5:00 pm Saturday Mass, please bring your own mask with you. If you do not wish to wear a mask, we would ask that you please attend one of the Sunday Masses.

Parish Directives Regarding Mass

- It is recommended that those 65 and older stay home, as well as those with serious medical problems.
- We continue live-streaming Mass (during regular scheduled Mass times) for those who cannot be present. The link is located above.
- Before and after Mass, please do not congregate inside the building.
- Please use hand sanitizer when you enter and leave the church.
- Face coverings are required for the 5:00 pm Saturday Masses. During the Sunday Masses and daily Masses, they are highly encouraged, but not required.
- Please do not sit in pews marked with a blue "X" on the seat.
- Maintain 6-foot spacing between family units in the same pew.
- Continue to refrain from shaking hands.
- Communion will be distributed by the priest and deacon. Please do not form a line for communion. They will go between the pews to distribute communion.
- Collection will be dropped in the basket on the way out of Mass.
- Please maintain 6-foot spacing between family units when exiting the Church.
- Bishop Siegel has indefinitely extended the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass in the Diocese of Evansville. The dispensation is intended to help protect the health and well-being of: those 65 and older and those of any age with underlying health conditions; those who are caring for or living with these individuals; those who have serious concerns about the health risks of coming to church for the celebration of the Eucharist. These persons are urged to continue to participate in the Sunday liturgy via live stream or other media. *While this dispensation applies to all Catholics, parishioners not under these risk factors are encouraged to attend Mass,* following the health protocols put in place by their respective parishes.
- The Blessed Sacrament will continue to be reposed in the Saint Clare Perpetual Adoration Chapel until the Bishop restores the obligation to attend Mass. There is Eucharistic Adoration in the Church from Monday–Friday from 9 am–4 pm, as well as Adoration and Benediction in the Church on Wednesdays from 5–6 pm.