



# THE CHURCH OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

Updated Directives During the Covid-19 Pandemic as Issued by the Archdiocese of Newark  
May 27, 2021

---

## Introduction

Given the reinstatement by the Bishops of NJ of the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and the lessening of restrictions from the state, the following is provided as an immediate update.

**Effective May 28**, masks will no longer be required for **fully vaccinated persons**. If not fully vaccinated, persons are strongly encouraged to follow CDC guidance and wear a face mask in public settings. People will no longer be required to socially distance indoors or outdoors, (May 28), although unvaccinated persons should continue to maintain a safe distance from others.

**Effective June 4**, all indoor gathering limits will be removed.

The Archdiocese of Newark states: “Although these directives represent a reduction of pandemic restrictions, the local pastors/administrators/chaplains can impose stricter regulations as needed. These may include wearing masks, social distancing, and signing in for Mass or activities.”

**These directives apply to all indoor and outdoor events.**

## Mass Attendance

Cardinal Tobin and the Bishops of New Jersey are reinstating the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation effective June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. To read the official statement, please visit: <https://www.rcan.org/>

## Updated Directives

- If you are fully vaccinated, you are no longer required to wear a mask. It is not required for parishioners to show proof of vaccination.
- Anyone not fully vaccinated should wear a mask. Any vaccinated person preferring to wear a mask should feel free to do so.
- Most Blessed Sacrament will continue to clean and sanitize the gymnasium after each liturgy.
- Although social distancing requirements are being eased, we will still continue to arrange the chairs as we have been doing. With the folding chairs, we have the

flexibility to accommodate those who wish to sit together, and those who would prefer a little distance.

- Although registration for Mass using Eventbrite is not a requirement to attend Mass, we are still encouraging worshippers to do so for now. The registration process enables us to be prepared with the appropriate number of seats in the gymnasium.

### **The Communion Rite**

- The Sign of Peace should be offered but continue to be made without physical contact.
- Communicants will continue to receive Communion in the hand. If not fully vaccinated, they lower their masks to consume the host, then replace their masks. The chalice is still prohibited for the assembly.

### **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

- All Extraordinary Ministers of Communion (and clergy) must sanitize their hands AFTER they themselves consume Communion and BEFORE they distribute to the assembly.
- Fully vaccinated ministers are only required to wear a mask when distributing Communion.

### **Livestreaming Mass**

Livestreaming the 10am Sunday Mass will continue for those who are ill; those who have reason to believe that they were recently exposed to the coronavirus or another serious or contagious illness; those who are confined to their home, a hospital, or nursing facility and those with serious underlying health conditions.

The Archdiocese states: “It still needs to be noted that even with precautions in place, it is still possible to contract Covid-19 in church. For more safety information:

<https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562021/approved/20210503b.shtml>”

Thank you for all of your cooperation  
during this unprecedented time.  
Through the intercession of Saint Joseph and  
Mary, our Good Mother, may God bless you!

