

A summary of the latest guidelines from the Diocese to be followed from May 17

On Friday, May 14, 2021, the MDHHS updated its [Gatherings and Mask order](#) to align with CDC guidelines which state: "fully vaccinated people no longer need to wear a mask or physically distance in any setting, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance."

In light of this development, and taking into account the growing numbers of people becoming fully vaccinated and/or having the access to vaccinations; we are making the following changes to liturgical worship at Parishes effective immediately:

Outdoor Mass attendees do not need to wear Masks; social distancing is still advised with the exception of households.

Parishioners are not required to wear masks for indoor worship. However, those that are unvaccinated are asked to continue to wear their masks, for their own protection as well as the protection of others.

Clergy and altar servers are asked to continue to wear masks. Anyone assisting with Holy Communion must also wear a mask.

Ushers/Parish staff are NOT to ask any parishioner and/or attendee what their vaccination status is.

- + With regard to all other matters, the previous guidelines continue to be in effect.
- + Since parishioners are not required to wear masks for indoor worship, let everyone use their good sense and do what is best, to keep themselves and others safe. **So, what I announced last week regarding reserving one section of the Church for those unvaccinated, is withdrawn. Parishioners can sit wherever they want.**