

## Regarding Masks

As you have probably heard already, Governor Walz has issued an executive order mandating face masks in public indoor settings beginning Saturday at 12 am. This order includes our church and atrium as well as our parish office and will be in effect for this weekend's Masses, including Saturday morning Mass, confessions, and Adoration. The order may be found [here](#).

From the order, Section 15:

15. Implementation of face covering requirements by businesses.

a. Businesses must require that all persons, including their workers, customers, and visitors, wear face coverings as required by this Executive Order.

b. When possible, businesses must provide accommodations to persons, including their workers and customers, who state they have a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that makes it unreasonable for the person to maintain a face covering, such as permitting use of an alternate form of face covering (e.g., face shield) or providing service options that do not require a customer to enter the business.

c. Businesses may not require customers to provide proof of a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability, or require customers to explain the nature of their conditions or disability.

Following Catholic Tradition, the conscience of the person is respected, therefore, the person's representation to St. Charles Church that they have a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that makes it unreasonable for the person to maintain a face covering, is to be respected. If one has a medical condition including but not limited to respiratory difficulty, mental illness or other disability that makes mask-wearing unhealthy or unreasonable, that person is exempt from wearing a mask in Church. Please keep in mind that if you observe another person on our campus not wearing a face mask they may fall into one of these categories.

See Exec Order, Section 8 for exemptions

While this is a major statement from the Governor, it is not much more than what our Archbishop has requested. When we first began Masses the Archdiocese "strongly urged" people to wear masks and last week the Archbishop gave a statement about the importance of wearing them. You can find a link to Archbishop Hebda's latest statement and encouragement to wear a mask [here](#).

We ask that you bring your own face covering, for example, a paper or cloth mask, bandana, neck gaiter, or face shield.