

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH, LANESVILLE
UPDATED GUIDELINES FOR LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS
MAY 3, 2021

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis held a meeting for its priests on April 27, 2021, in which updated Covid-19 guidelines were presented to the pastors for consideration and implementation. Listed below is an outline of the protocols to be implemented at St. Mary's within the next few weeks per the recommendations set forth by the Archdiocese:

- The general dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation *remains in place* in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis until further notice. St. Mary's would, however, like to take this opportunity to invite and encourage all parishioners to return to Mass and the Sacraments unless your health or the health of someone with whom you are in close contact may be at risk.
- All Mass attendees shall *continue to wear a face covering while in church*, except when reading, cantoring, or leading prayer.
- All priests and other ministers of Holy Communion shall *continue to wear a face covering when distributing Holy Communion*.
- Beginning Tuesday, May 4, 2021, *Holy Communion shall be distributed, going forward, at all Masses at the regular (pre-covid) time* instead of at the conclusion of Mass.
- At all weekend Masses, the *ushers will guide parishioners to the communion line* at the appropriate time.
- If a parishioner chooses not to receive Holy Communion, he or she may either remain in the pew or come forward to receive a blessing if desired.
- The *Spiritual Communion prayer* shall continue to be offered after Holy Communion.
- *Holy Communion shall continue to be distributed under the species of bread only and given in the hand only*.
- The exchange of the *Sign of Peace* shall continue with *no physical contact*.
- The *Presentation of Gifts* during the offertory shall resume within the month.
- The *collection will be taken by the ushers* and shall resume within the month.
- Missalettes and Hymnals shall return within the month. Printed copies will continue to be available.
- The *lector ministry* shall resume as soon as assignments are made and updated procedures are communicated to the lectors.
- The *reintroduction of other liturgical ministers* may resume when social distance recommendations are lowered.
- *Holy water fonts have been filled*. Parishioners may use this sacramental at their own discretion.
- *Sanitizing of the church* after each Mass is *no longer required* as it has been shown that Covid-19 transmission through surface contact is unlikely. *Regular pre-covid cleaning practices will resume*.
- Any future updates will be conveyed as they are implemented.