

May 20, 2021

Dear Parishioners:

The Archdiocese of Detroit has issued new guidelines for parishes regarding COVID-19 procedures and protocols.

In response to the new CDC recommendations and the State of Michigan orders released last Friday, May 14th, those who are fully vaccinated are no longer required to wear a face mask or social distance at Church; however, in accordance with state guidelines, all un-vaccinated or not fully vaccinated individuals are still asked to wear a facial covering at Mass and maintain social distancing.

While some protocols are being relaxed, Archbishop Vigneron reminds us all to bear in mind our need to care for the common good and to exercise care and love for those who are most vulnerable among us. To read his full letter, visit aod.org/emergencyresponse.

At Divine Child, we have designated the two sections of pews on the Marian-side as a "mask & social distancing required section." In this area, we will continue implementing the alternating A/B pew format and require masks. (The A/B pew signs have been removed from the other pew sections.) If after this weekend, we determine we need to expand this space, we will adjust accordingly. Parishioners may continue to wear masks and social distance in the other sections of the church but are not required to do so.

Even with this shift towards "normal," many of our other COVID-19 procedures will remain in place at this time, including:

- Our Church will continue to be cleaned and sanitized daily.
- Hand sanitizing stations will remain in the Gathering Space.
- Air purifiers will continue to run in the Church.
- Eucharistic ministers will continue to wear face masks while distributing Holy Communion and sanitize
 their hands if they make contact with a parishioner.
- We will continue to refrain from the distribution of the Chalice to the faithful.
- And, weather-permitting, we will continue offering our 10 AM outdoor Mass.

This weekend, you may also enter and exit the Church from any door (not just the main Silvery Lane entrance). Additionally, in the coming weeks, you can expect to see our hymnals return to the Church! Hallelujah!

Please join me in praying, "Come Holy Spirit!" as we start this transition back to "normal." This long-awaited shift is truly a gift from Him! Thank you for following these guidelines and helping us work through this transition.

God's Peace and Joy,

FR. Bob McCabe

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