

August 27, 2021

God's blessings to you. The news of our current situation with COVID-19 is certainly not welcomed but unfortunately is our present reality. Bishop Siegel this week shared: "for example, to date, our 26 Catholic schools have reported over 100 positive cases since school began earlier this month, compared to less than 10 cases last year at this time. This surge has necessitated changes to our Diocesan COVID-19 Guidelines." These guidelines follow the metrics of the Indiana State Department of Health in their color-coded county map. This ties our guidelines more to the local situation than a one-size-fits-all approach for the twelve counties comprising the Diocese of Evansville. As these metrics are updated weekly on Wednesdays, we will be communicating those corresponding guidelines that day by e-newsletter and door signs. These guidelines cover our parish liturgical events (Masses), parish non-liturgical events & office, schools and diocesan facilities.

**For Masses:** When we are in the orange or red, face coverings are strongly recommended. We will continue our social distance section for those who feel more comfortable there and expand as necessary. Please note that Saturday evening Masses usually have a smaller attendance.

**For meetings, ministries and in the parish office:** When we are in the orange, face coverings and social distancing are strongly recommended. When we are in the red, face coverings and social distancing to the extent possible are required. This is indoors only.

The entirety of these guidelines (*including schools and diocesan facilities*) can be found on the homepage of the parish website or by visiting the parish office.

Brothers and sisters, I'm guessing that none of us are particularly excited about moving back to these precautions, myself included. But, I hope that in following these guidelines out of charity we can help ourselves and our more vulnerable brothers and sisters. May God who is Love and greater than all things bring us the peace and unity we all so desperately desire.

In that same love,

  
Pastor

