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## **COVID Guidelines per Batesville Deanery**

Letter from Fr. Keucher the Dean of our Deanery...

Dear Parishioners,

As you know, Governor Eric Holcomb issued an Executive Order on July 24, 2020, which requires the use of face coverings for everyone over the age of 7 in places open to the public. Since our parishes are open to the public, the priests and PLCs of the Batesville Deanery believe that unified obedience to this order in our churches and other parish buildings is in the best interest of all. Effective July 27, everyone entering a church, adoration chapel, school building, parish office, or other parish building, should wear a face covering of some kind until the governor changes the expected practice. Those who have medical concerns should speak with their pastor or PLC. We appreciate everyone's assistance in following the Archbishop's guidelines and the Governor's order.

## **COVID Guidelines per Archdiocese of Indianapolis**

October 23, 2020

### **Dispensation for Sunday Mass extended until further notice**

The five Catholic bishops of Indiana have extended the dispensation for the obligation to attend the public celebration of Mass on Sundays to all the faithful until further notice.

"While commending our pastors and pastoral life coordinators who have gone to great lengths to assure safe worship spaces in our churches, given the continued increase of COVID-19 cases in our state, the Indiana bishops hereby extend the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation beyond Nov. 1, 2020, until further notice. The Indiana bishops will continue to monitor the situation to determine when it might be advisable to modify or lift the dispensation," said an Oct. 19 statement of the bishops from the Province of Indianapolis, which includes the Archdiocese of Indianapolis and the Dioceses of Gary, Evansville, Fort Wayne-South Bend and Lafayette.

Archbishop Charles C. Thompson said, "Both clergy and laity must make every effort to maintain the availability of open churches and public liturgies by following public health guidelines and employing various safety protocols," including:

- The wearing of face coverings;
- Social distancing;
- Enhanced cleaning measures.

“Further guidelines, due to local situations, may be necessary in a particular parish,” Archbishop Thompson added.

SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis and other parishes across central and southern Indiana will continue livestreaming Masses.

Weekday Masses at the Cathedral are celebrated Monday through Friday at 5:15 p.m. Weekend Masses include the Saturday Vigil Mass at 5 p.m. and the Sunday liturgy at 10:30 a.m. Links to these Masses are available at [www.archindy.org/streaming](http://www.archindy.org/streaming).

Daily Mass is also offered on EWTN (Eternal Word Television Network), and Catholic Radio Indy 89.1 FM and 90.9 FM broadcasts a daily Mass at 8 a.m. each day from the EWTN chapel in Irondale, Ala.