

May 14, 2021

Yesterday, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced fully vaccinated adults do not need to wear a mask indoors or outdoors or in gatherings large or small, nor do they need to practice physical distancing. In light of this news, the Diocese of Joliet is presently evaluating the impact of this new guidance on our policies and guidelines.

Our guidelines will remain the same until we have further clarity. Please note the following:

Schools

- Masks will continue to be worn in all diocesan schools through the remainder of the school year since the vast majority of students are not yet vaccinated. This is also in accordance with Illinois State Board of Education guidance regarding masks in school buildings.
- If we need to revise guidelines for year-end activities and events, such as graduations, we will do so as soon as possible.

Parishes and Blanchette Catholic Center

- All parishes should continue to require masks for all attendees at Masses and liturgies until we issue revised guidelines.
- All staff should continue to wear masks in all diocesan and parish offices in accordance with previously issued guidance.

We appreciate your patience as we monitor this quickly evolving situation. We will provide a more detailed update as soon as possible.