

Dear Friends

We have received several questions regarding Governor Beshears recommendation that houses of worship not have in-person services until December 13th. The following was just received from the Diocese regarding this.

To: All Parishes and Missions of the Catholic Diocese of Lexington
From: Communications Office, Catholic Diocese of Lexington

Please find the attached updated COVID-19 guidelines for the Catholic Diocese of Lexington.
20 November 2020

To All the Faithful of the Catholic Diocese of Lexington:

As most of you are aware, Governor Beshear has recommended that houses of worship not have in-person services from now through December 13.

Although our parishes will continue to celebrate mass with all of the safety restrictions already established, I encourage people to seriously consider worshipping from home, participating in streamed masses and/or praying, reading scripture, sharing faith with your families. We do not have to worship in person and the obligation to attend mass on Sundays and holy days is still suspended. We do have the divine commandment to keep holy the Lord's Day and can do so in our own homes safely.

I urge those who are elderly or who have conditions which reduce the capacity of their immune systems to stay home and join in virtual worship at this time.

The less we are in crowds, especially indoors, the less the virus spreads. Please heed all of the directives for safe celebrations of Thanksgiving and consider it an expression of Christian charity to wear a mask whenever within six feet of another person or when indoors with others.

The state's directives now prohibit gatherings of larger than 25; as of today, this applies to all gatherings other than worship in our buildings.

I remind you of the procedures in effect since the resumption of public worship in Diocese of Lexington 20 May 2020.

In case of emergency please contact me at 859-333-9926

Pax Christi Protocols (published previously October 30, 2020)

Our only concern is always that everyone who attends Mass or other events at Pax Christi is safe. We consider it a serious obligation to assure the safety of all who come to worship in this space.

Please keep in mind:

- 1) If you are experiencing any symptoms that might be COVID please refrain from coming to church, seek medical attention, be tested and isolate.
- 2) If you have been to church and later in the day or the next few days experience symptoms that might be COVID please let us know when you were here and where you were seated. If you know the people in close proximity to where you were sitting please be let us know.
- 3) Masks must be worn. These are to be surgical or cloth masks.
- 4) Upon entering the church please stop at the counter to use hand sanitizer
- 5) Please do not gather in the welcome area or other areas in the church
- 6) Please keep six feet distance from those not in your own household
- 7) Please be seated from the front of church back in order to keep passing others at a minimum
- 8) Please be seated in appropriate areas for your family [i.e. couples, families, single households)
- 9) Please follow guidance regarding coming forward for communion and returning to your seat - please keep masks in place until you turn away from the minister
- 10) The church office is closed to walk-ins. If you wish to schedule a meeting with

a member of the staff please contact them by email or call the office (859-273-9999) during office hours to arrange to meet them upstairs.

Thank you for being so patient with these protocols as doing so helps us keep the church a safer place for all those who feel they are able to return at this time and helps us prepare for an increase in that number as time goes on.

Please remember that this year Bishop John has issued dispensation of the obligation to attend Mass until further notice. Please use your discretion as to your vulnerability or the vulnerability of those for whom you have regular contact.

Upcoming Holiday Schedule

Thanksgiving, Thursday, November 27th

Mass at 9:30 AM (no Wednesday Mass; no dinner)

Feast of the **Immaculate Conception**, Tuesday, December 8th

Masses are Monday, Dec. 7th at 6:30 PM; Tuesday, Dec. 8th 12:00 Noon

Christmas Masses - Sign ups required

Christmas Eve - Thursday, December 24th at 4:00 PM (no pageant) and 7:00 PM

Christmas Day - Friday, December 25th at 9:30 AM

There will be no Midnight Mass this year

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God (**New Year's Day**) - Sign-up Genius required

New Year's Eve - Thursday, December 31st at 6:30 PM

New Year's Day - Friday, January 1st at 12:00 Noon

In case of emergency contact Melissa Holland 859-333-9926

Mass times for Sunday Liturgy

Saturday 5:00 PM; Sunday 8:30 & 11:30 AM*; and Monday 12:00 Noon

*beginning November 29th we will return to a 11:00 AM Mass instead of 11:30 AM

Weekday Masses: Tuesday & Thursday 9:30 AM; Friday 12:00 Noon

Under current protocols, there is no singing at this time. Pax Christi's music director will be the only person playing our pianos. Stringed instruments may be permitted under the direction and positioning of our music director (safe distancing and masks required). No Brass instruments are allowed at this time.

We are taking every precaution to keep a clean environment. After every Mass or gathering the chairs, door handles, bathrooms and all counters are sanitized.

Others

Protocols for funerals, wedding, and other special Masses

Pease restrict the total number you are inviting.

Concerning people who will be traveling from out of state. When we begin to welcome people, who will have to travel we are adding a new safety challenge that is harder to control. We are asking you to consider these protocols:

*Can they come to Lexington 2 weeks ahead and reasonably restrict their exposure to family members who will be attending the Mass or other event?

*If they can only come just a day or two before the Mass or other event, can they be tested three days before traveling and reasonably restrict their exposure before attending? That way, if they test negative and show no symptoms, we can be more assured that they and others are safe.

*We continue to find it problematic to have guests flying just a day or two before attending Mass or other events here at the parish.