

# St. Basil The Great



## COVID-19 Mitigation Measures Announcement

This Announcement is a follow up to our May 15, 2021 and May 22, 2021 announcements.

I wanted to update you as to where we stand on COVID-19 mitigation measures at our parish. It appears we are in a transition period where we are being asked to self-regulate and take responsibility for our actions as they affect ourselves and our community. Please keep in mind that COVID-19 still presents a risk, so I ask everyone to act responsibly and in accordance with all applicable laws and public health recommendations, since our collective health and well-being depend on it.

Beginning June 1, 2021, this is what to expect at St. Basil the Great:

- 1) All sanitation, social distancing, and seating capacity restrictions will no longer be in effect. We realize, however, that not everyone is able to be vaccinated at this time, so we will keep one section of pews marked so those who wish to maintain social distance while in the church building for Mass may do so.
- 2) As of now, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania mask mandate remains in effect. This means that those who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (i.e., it has been at least 14 days since the last vaccine required for full vaccination was received) no longer need to wear a face mask in our buildings, while those who have not been fully vaccinated must continue to wear a face mask. When the mask mandate is lifted by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Chester County and local officials, it will be lifted at St. Basil the Great as well.
- 3) Our local mitigation measures (e.g. ushers seating everyone, only the main entrance doors being open, no hymnals, no devotional candles, etc.) will largely cease and normal practices will be restored in the coming days with the exception of the following, which continue to be suspended until further notice: (1) the distribution of the Precious Blood; (2) the Entrance, Offertory, and Recessional Processions; (3) the Sign of Peace; and (4) Holy Water distribution. Additionally, until further notice, liturgical ministers will continue to wear masks during the distribution of Communion and bulletins will not be printed, but will continue to be available on our Facebook page and website. We will continue to use the Collection drop boxes at this time.
- 4) The current Mass schedule, including live-streaming daily Masses and the Sunday 8:30 am Mass will continue at this time. The Sunday 4 pm Mass continues to be suspended until further notice. The obligation to attend Mass continues to be suspended in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

We ask everyone to be respectful and non-confrontational in dealing with one another in church and throughout the community. Additionally, please follow federal, state, and local laws and recommendations regarding when to stay home, quarantine, etc. should you be sick or be exposed to someone with COVID-19.

Please continue to check our website and Facebook page for updates and changes. Thank you for all you have done and will continue to do as we work through these issues as a loving faith community and for your continued faithful support of me and our parish.

Fr. Gary Pacitti, Pastor

Dated: May 28, 2021