

# COVID Safety Restrictions: Changes Beginning May 29th

My dear friends in Christ,

The Chinese have a saying, “may you live in interesting times”; well, we are certainly living in interesting times, whether we like them or not! Due to the Archdiocese of Boston’s recent announcement, we have some changes to share that we will be implementing at Masses going forward. We recognize that people are at very different places philosophically, psychologically, and spiritually; please know that we are implementing these changes after careful prayer, consideration, and consultation with various authorities, and that we do so with your safety as our paramount concern.

## As of May 29th, we will be implementing the following changes:

- Parishioners will no longer need to sign up for Masses
- Vaccinated people are not required to wear masks
  - Non-vaccinated people are still advised to wear masks
- The church capacity will not be limited
  - Both parishes will have marked sections available for those who choose to maintain social distance
- No changes at this time to the distribution of Communion
  - Communion will be distributed as it has been in recent months: at the front and back of the parish at St. Ann’s and in the sections at St. John’s
  - Masks will be worn by the clergy and Eucharistic Ministers during the distribution of Communion
- No changes at this time to entering and exiting the church
  - All parishioners are invited into the front of the church and will exit through the side doors of the church
  - No changes to the distribution of bulletins and offertory collection: they will be available at the side door exits
- Congregational singing is allowed
  - The cantor will resume singing the psalm instead of having the lector saying it
- Lectors are invited to join the opening procession and may resume sitting on the altar in between their duties
- Altar servers are invited to resume assisting at Mass. If any of our young people wish to be altar servers, please contact Stephanie Gaboury at [directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com](mailto:directorofministries.TIC@gmail.com) to coordinate a training to be conducted by Father Paul and Deacon Chris (or to review the duties if they have been altar servers in the past)
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the church
  - Pews will be disinfected at the end of every weekend

Blessings,  
The Together in Christ Collaborative