

July 17, 2020 Update from Father Dennis Walsh

Effective on July 17th at 6:00 Allen County is under Level 3 of the Covid-19 Alert System. This system was established to identify counties where infections from the Coronavirus are increasing. As such, by Executive Order of the Governor, face masks are required to be worn by all individuals 10 years old and older inside all buildings. Therefore, face masks will be required for those in attendance at all activities (including liturgies) at St. John the Evangelist, Delphos; St. John the Baptist, Landeck; St. Patrick Spencerville.

The order provides an exception for the "Officiant" of religious activities. In a Press Conference, Governor DeWine indicated that the term "Officiant" should be interpreted in broad terms to include anyone who leads a congregation in prayer which shall include a lector, a cantor, preacher, presider, etc. For the purposes of the three parishes and in my pastoral discretion as Pastor, I will define "Officiant" as anyone who exercises a liturgical function in the sanctuary during a liturgy or prayer service (although these liturgical ministers may wear a face mask if they so choose).

As the Parish is not able to provide face masks, those attending Mass will be expected to provide their own.

We pray for all those who have been working as first responders and health professionals during this health crisis. In our prayer let us also remember those who suffer from illness and pray for the souls of those who have died.

Fr. Dennis

Social Distancing Guidelines During the Liturgy

1. You should not attend Mass if you are health compromised, in a risk group, or suffering from any illness.
2. Face masks are now required (formerly recommended).
3. Please take the flyer before Mass. All music and readings are contained in the flyer.
4. Please sit as a family unit at the end of every pew marked with a bow. We will be using every other pew.
5. At the Communion Rite, the greeters will release you by pew. Please observe social distancing in the Communion procession.
6. Please leave your offertory envelope in baskets at the door as you leave Church.
7. Please take your mass flyer with you as you leave Church. DO NOT place back on the table after Mass or leave in the pew.
8. At the conclusion of Mass, kindly leave Church without the customary socialization that usually happens after Mass. This is to ensure that the Church may be sanitized promptly.