



ARCHDIOCESE  
of BALTIMORE

## WEEKLY COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 6, 2022

**Lent and Easter** – All parishes are encouraged to return to or maintain accepted liturgical norms and practices that were in place pre-COVID-19.

- If a parish wishes to maintain any modified practices (such as the sprinkling of ashes) due to specific concerns at the parish, please ensure these practices are consistent with what was adopted for Lent and Easter last season. All decisions concerning these practices will be up to the discretion of the pastor.
- Parishes are still encouraged to practice safety measures that include a consistent sanitizing of common areas, hand sanitizer available at all entrances and support a welcoming environment for those members of your parishes who wish to wear masks.
- Please reach out to your respective Vicar Office with specific questions concerning liturgical protocols.
- Communion should continue to be provided only under the single form;
- When there are co-concelebrants, either separate chalices be provided or the method of intinction used.
- Parishes should also continue to have sanitization readily available if an individual distributing communion believes they made contact with the person's mouth or saliva.

**Chrism Mass 2022** – This annual Mass will be held at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen on April 11 at 7:30 p.m. and will be open to the public this year.

**Sanitizing Community Spaces** - If locations need to re-order Enviroclense, please reach out to Gary Morris at 832-221-2442 or GMorris@eco-enviro.com for a discount code.

**Optional Masking at Schools** - The Department of Catholic Schools has modified its masking policy and transitioning to mask-optional (parental choice) beginning on Monday, February 14.

- Students' parents and/or guardians were informed this afternoon (Friday, February 11)

- Please see the official statement: Archdiocese of Baltimore Department of Catholic Schools optional masking (parental choice) - Archdiocese of Baltimore (archbalt.org).
- For those parishes running programs such as faith-formation or youth ministry within school buildings or programs that are co-located within schools, please note the mask-optional policy is based on parental choice for minors. Adults also have the option to mask or not to mask.
- This policy is based on your jurisdictional allowance or mandate (presently, Baltimore City is the only jurisdiction requiring masks) and your pastor's discretion.
- Please promote the idea of remaining respectful of parents' or individuals' choices.
- For more information visit: <https://catholicreview.org/catholic-schools-in-archdiocese-of-baltimore-moving-to-optional-masking-where-permitted/>.

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