



The Good News is that at CHS we now have permission to open up fully!

The bad news is that the pandemic has left us all a bit battered, a bit damaged and a bit nervous. So like all fragile human beings, we will take a while to adjust.

As we move forward, let us be patient with ourselves and with each other. If you don't feel ready to embrace fully the changes I am about to mention, that is okay. Take your time.

The Archdiocese has lifted almost all restrictions to worship and ministry in our parish.

Effective here, immediately, at CHS the following will change:

Registration for Mass: No longer will you have to register and there is no limit to capacity at Masses. *All are welcome!*

Masks: Face coverings are no longer required if you are vaccinated. Proof of vaccination is not required. Please practice honesty and sensitivity to others. Wear a mask if you are not fully vaccinated.

Seating: You may sit where you like. Our "old" pre-Covid seating will be returned to the Worship Space in September.

Social distancing: is no longer required and can be self-regulated as needed. Our current chairs will allow you to create the space that you need.

Hand Sanitizing: This is no longer required to enter the church building or before you receive Communion. However, hand sanitizer will be available to you in the gathering space, the worship space and all entrances. We will continue to sanitize the worship space before each celebration.

Holy Communion: Communion from the chalice remains suspended. Communion on the tongue is now permitted. Extraordinary Ministers of Communion will be welcome back into service by the Fall. Mass Coordinators will continue to assist the priest with the distribution of Communion.

Music – We are allowed to join in with the singing and the choir will begin rehearsals soon. All parts of the Mass will be sung at 5pm and 10am and 12pm Mass. The 8am Mass will remain a "quiet" Mass. We are working on a worship aid for singing.

The Sign of Peace: This is now allowed. Offer each other the sign of peace as you feel able. It is perfectly acceptable to continue the practice of a wave or peace sign.

Social Gatherings: These are now allowed on parish property without restrictions for those who are vaccinated. If you are not vaccinated and attend a social activity, please wear a face covering and social distance as needed.

The Archdiocese continues to ask everyone, if we test positive for Covid at any time, to report it to the parish office, so that we may alert parishioners who have recently been in your company.

As I started, so I finish: for some, these changes may be too much to deal with at this time. That is perfectly okay. Continue with a mask for as long as you need. Social distance for as long as you need. As we learn to live with Covid, let us do so together and responsibly.

#WeAreCHS