

# Update to Covid-19 Procedures as of 8/16/21

**The Town of New Fairfield is re-instituting a mask mandate as of Monday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. The order requires that all individuals are required to wear masks or cloth face coverings at all times while in public indoor settings, regardless of vaccination status. This would include all indoor functions, worship, and meetings at St. Edward's parish.**

The revised protocols are attached for your review.

- A. Masks are required indoors on church property regardless of vaccination status.
- B. Social distancing is not required. All pews available for seating.
- C. No Mass registration systems are required.
- D. Church bulletins, holy items, cards, and books are permitted.
- E. Facilities will be sanitized before and after weekend Masses.
- F. Music
  - 1. Missals and disposable worship aids may be used.
  - 2. Eight person choirs plus instrumentalists allowed.
  - 3. Musicians will wear masks.
  - 4. Social distancing for choirs is not required.
  - 5. Congregational singing is allowed.
- G. The sign of peace will remain as a non-contact gesture (bow, wave, etc.).
- H. Procedures for the distribution of Holy Communion
  - 1. Masks are required for everyone distributing Holy Communion.
  - 2. Sanitize hands before distributing Holy Communion and after the final person receives.
  - 3. Sanitizing in between communicants is required when someone receives on the tongue or if the person distributing Communion touches the communicant's hand.
  - 4. Communion is only given under one species - consecrated hosts.
  - 5. Those receiving Communion on the tongue should come at the end of the line, and should only receive Communion from the priest.