



Moderator of the Curia

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington

Dear Brother in Christ,

I write today to provide you with updates and will continue to share with you information as needed.

Mask Update

The District of Columbia and Prince George's County have now lifted their mask mandates for most indoor settings. Thus, beginning tomorrow, March 1, masks will no longer be required in any indoor setting in any area jurisdiction, with the exception of schools and childcare facilities in the District of Columbia, as well as other venues there unrelated to parish functions.

The CDC has also issued new advisory guidelines, which now classify the COVID-19 Community Level for the District and for Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's, and St. Mary's Counties as low. The CDC recommendation for these areas is: "Wear a mask based on your personal preference, informed by your personal level of risk."

The use of masks by ordinary and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion will continue to be optional and no longer required during the distribution in all jurisdictions of the archdiocese. This decision was made due to the plummeting case loads as well as the high vaccination rates. However, in making their decisions on masking for distribution of Holy Communion, pastors should be sensitive to the needs of the parishioners, deacons, and other ministers to understand that some recipients of Holy Communion may feel more comfortable if ministers wear a mask during distribution.

Update Regarding Annual Boy Scout Charter Agreement Renewal

The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) is directing all parishes with Boy Scout troops to sign the annual Boy Scout charter agreement renewal for this year, and submit to your local scouting representative. A copy of the latest charter agreement is linked [here](#).

This updates and supersedes the message from last month that parishes hold off on signing the annual Boy Scout charter agreement. We will continue to monitor the Boy Scouts of America national bankruptcy as it relates to our parish scouting activities. In the meantime, parishes and schools may continue to sponsor all Boy Scout activities.

We appreciate all of your help in this matter and will continue to update you as this matter proceeds. If you have any questions regarding the BSA bankruptcy or your parish BSA troop, or if you receive any documents related to the BSA bankruptcy, please email legaladmin@adw.org.

Solemnity of the Annunciation – March 25, 2022

Friday, March 25, 2022 is the Solemnity of the Annunciation. Since it is a solemnity, the precept that those who are fourteen and older abstain from meat on Fridays of Lent does not apply (cf. cc. 1251, 1252).

Remind the Faithful of Information on the Website

The archdiocesan website is updated regularly. Please see adw.org/coronavirus for information related to the coronavirus, adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/ for a listing of live stream Masses and prayers, and cathstan.org and elpreg.org for the *Catholic Standard* and the Spanish-language *El Pregonero* newspapers.

As always, should you have questions or need assistance from my office and the Pastoral Center, please let us know.

With gratitude for your priestly ministry, I am
Sincerely in Christ,
Very Reverend Daniel B. Carson
Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia