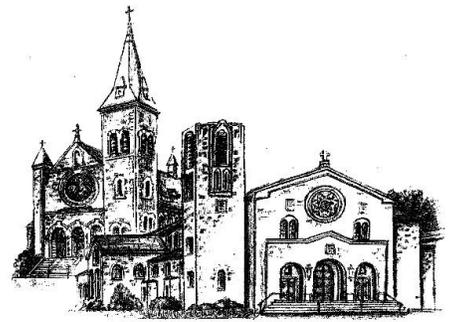


## HOLY COMFORTER-SAINT CYPRIAN ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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1357 East Capitol Street, Southeast  
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November 24, 2021

Dear Parishioners,

Mayor Muriel Bowser lifted the mask mandate for indoor gatherings in Washington D.C. as of November 22<sup>nd</sup>. We would like to accommodate all who want to attend Mass but may be reluctant due to this recent change. After discussion with staff, we have decided upon an indoor mask policy that we hope will work for our parishioners. Please note that since this policy is being implemented mid-week, we may need to be patient as everyone may be hearing about it for the first time when they come to Mass this weekend and will need time to adjust.

In order to provide an option to those who prefer to attend a Mass where all are masked while in the sanctuary, it is my decision to designate the 8:00am Mass for that option. Hence, beginning this Sunday, Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>, we will ask all who attend the 8:00am Mass to wear a mask and keep it on during Mass. At our other Masses, the wearing of a mask will be optional. Although, we recommend that if you have not been vaccinated that you wear a mask not just for others, but for your own safety. I hope this accommodation will be helpful in meeting the needs of those who seek a greater sense of safety. Our ushers will certainly supply a mask to any who may need one.

In situations like these it is important to listen to one another and show mutual charity. We will continue to rope off every other pew in the sanctuary to allow for social distancing. And, we have enough Masses scheduled over the weekend so that they are not overcrowded. I ask your patience and cooperation in this matter.

Please know of my love and concern for all of you and of my strong desire to be sure that Holy Mass and the reception of the Holy Eucharist is best available to all. May God be praised and may his Charity remain in us all.



Rev. Msgr. Charles Pope  
Pastor