

March 4, 2022

The CDC has recently changed its guidance regarding the wearing of masks by those vaccinated or unvaccinated.

To read more about the guidelines, [click here](#). Milwaukee County according to that website is in the 'Low' category; which means

- People may choose to wear a mask at any time: 'wear a mask based on your personal preference, informed by your personal level of risk.'
- People with symptoms, a positive test or exposure to someone with Covid-19 should wear a mask.
- Additionally, in this category the CDC recommends people should stay up to date with Covid-19 vaccines and
- Get tested if they have symptoms.

The new guidelines require masks in indoor places regardless of vaccination status only when transmission is deemed High.

The CDC has changed the guidelines for Low, Medium and High local transmission areas. No longer are the numbers regarding 7-day Average Positivity and 7-day Average New cases being looked at. Now it will be based on the TOTAL new cases in the last 7 days, then the TOTAL new hospital admissions for people because of Covid (not with Covid). Here is a link to see the new measurement standards '[How CDC Measures the Covid-19 Community Levels](#)'.

Therefore, because Milwaukee County is in the 'Low' category, masks are not required to be worn, generally, including here on campus at Sacred Heart.

Some of you will undoubtedly choose to continue to wear masks. Please be assured of my support. I encourage all to continue to be vigilant, be safe, and follow best practices for good health as well as possible. For the time being we will continue to follow Phase 4.5 protocols in our Covid Operations response plan (<https://www.shsst.edu/covid-19>) with leeway for this latest guidance. In the meantime, I along with the President's Council members will continue to monitor the situation and update our protocols as needed.

In the Heart of Christ,
Fr. Raúl

Very Rev. Raúl Gómez-Ruiz SDS, PhD
President-Rector
Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology
7335 South HWY. 100
Post Office Box 429
Hales Corners, WI 53130-0429
414-529-6986
414-529-6999 FAX
rector@shsst.edu

