



DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE
OFFICE OF THE VICAR GENERAL

Dear Fathers,

August 20, 2021

Our communities continue to be deeply affected by the pandemic, and recent face covering mandates enacted by some local governments are prompting additional questions and concerns from the faithful.

As you know, state executive orders have recognized that constitutionally protected activity, such as religious services, are exempt from such mandates. However, please remain attentive to any local face covering rules and other health measures put in place by your local officials and health departments. Manage and adjust your particular safety precautions based on your prudential judgment and pastoral needs, and continue offering accompaniment and care to those who are vulnerable or fearful. Above all, we must continue encouraging the faithful to remain close to Jesus who sustains us especially during difficult times such as this.

If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Please be assured of my prayers for you and your parishioners. Let us pray that guided by the Holy Spirit, we may help to build unity and charity within our diocesan family.

Fraternally in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. Patrick J. Winslow, J.C.L.
Vicar General and Chancellor