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February 22, 2022

Dear saints of St. Peter's,

Several weeks ago, I asked you to resume wearing masks during gatherings at St. Peter's. As you know, this was due to sharply rising case numbers because of the Omicron variant of the virus. Thank you for receiving that request with patience.

In the last few days, case numbers have fallen precipitously. We greet this news with prayers of thanksgiving! Therefore, **on Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022**, we will return to our previous policy: mask-wearing is once more at your discretion.

We will continue to provide N-95 masks at the entrance of the church for anyone who wishes to provide themselves an additional layer of protection. And we will continue to livestream our Sunday 9AM service for those who, for whatever reason, are unable to attend.

If you have questions about this decision, please feel free to be in touch with me. Please note again that this change takes effect next week, on Ash Wednesday.

Navigating this pandemic has not been easy for any of us. So, even as we pray that we are approaching our new normal, compassion for each other will repay itself many times over. Remember the Apostle's counsel to the Ephesians, which is still godly advice today: "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:32).

I ask you for your prayers and assure you that you remain in mine. I am, as always,

Yours in Christ Jesus,