



Catholic Diocese of Peoria

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Statement of the Diocese of Peoria regarding Covid-19 Vaccines

As you have most likely been made aware, the United States Bishops have approved the use of the *Moderna* and *Pfizer* Covid-19 Vaccines for Catholics (see *The Catholic Post*, Sunday, December 20, 2020, page 5) as an “act of charity” in light of the public health risks of the pandemic. In response to the vaccines, the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life and Doctrine stated this, “People may in good conscience use the vaccines produced by *Pfizer* and *Moderna*, which made only limited use of those unethical cell lines (for lab testing of the vaccine).” Moral theologians refer to this as “remote material cooperation.” The Vatican has agreed with this position as outlined in the US Bishops’ statement.

We must encourage the continued development of non-morally compromised cell lines for future vaccines from all drug-manufacturing companies. At this time the Church allows the use of the *Pfizer* and *Moderna* vaccines to combat Covid-19 if you choose to be vaccinated. If you would like to read the complete statement of the US Bishops on the “Moral Considerations Regarding the New COVID-19 Vaccines” go the USCCB website at <https://www.usccb.org/moral-considerations-covid-vaccines>. The Statement issued by the Vatican’s Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith can be found at their website: http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_2_0201221_nota-vaccini-anticovid_en.html.