



16 September 2021

Dear Faithful and Clergy of the Archdiocese,

Most of us by now are aware of the latest temporary measures announced by the Government of Alberta on COVID19 protocols. These most recent changes that affect our parishes and parish ministry are:

1. Masks are mandatory, which I had called for in my letter to the Archdiocese on Monday 13 September.
2. We are limited to one-third of the seating capacity of our churches for worship gatherings, which for us would be weekday and Sunday Masses, according to Fire Marshall figures. In order to assure this, I ask all parishes to re-instate a registration process whereby those who come to Mass can be assured that there is a seat for them.
3. Physical distancing measures will be reinstated for all services. We will have to cordon off or otherwise indicate what seats in the church can be occupied. In some churches, this may also include ushers leading parishioners to available seating.
4. Attendance at weddings and funerals as of 20 September 2021 are limited to 50 persons or 50% of the seating capacity of the church, whichever is less or ensures physical distancing protocols are followed.

All other procedures indicated in my letter of 9 September 2021 apply, as regards congregational singing, Holy Communion, social gatherings and parish offices.

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