

MEMORANDUM



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE
of Calgary

DATE June 9, 2021
TO Priests, Deacons, and Parish Office Staff
FROM Fr. Wilbert Chin Jon
SUBJECT Liturgical Guidelines for **Stage 2** of Alberta's Open for Summer Plan

Stage 2 begins on Thursday, June 10, 2021

- The following have been updated to reflect the relaxation of some of the restrictions in Stage 2 of Alberta's Open for Summer Plan.
- All protocols dealing with the use of masks, contact tracing, sanitizing, proper physical distancing with individuals from different household, etc. remain in place.

Mass

- The capacity limit for in-person attendance is 1/3 of the fire code occupancy.
- The use of masks is required.
- Communion on the tongue is still temporarily not allowed in Stage 2. This will be reviewed and considered for Stage 3.

Altar Servers

- Two (2) properly distanced altar servers are allowed to assist at the Mass.
- The use of masks is required.
- Priests, deacons, and altar servers must wear a mask when in proximity with each other. Be generous with physical distancing to avoid any close proximity around the altar.
- Proper training, consistent with the health and safety protocols in place, must be provided.
- The permission of parents are required.

Choir

- Two (2) – three (3) properly distanced cantors/singers are permitted.
- Two (2) properly distanced accompanists/instrumentalists are permitted.

- Performers must wear masks at all times.
- A hand sanitizer pump must be made available in the choir area.
- Congregational singing is not permitted. Please choose unfamiliar hymns.
- The music chosen must not prolong the Mass unduly.
- A recessional hymn is now permitted.
- Do not share items that cannot be cleaned and sanitized before and after each use (e.g., books, music sheets, and hymn books).
- Microphones and equipment must not be shared. Sanitizing wipes may be needed to disinfect hand-held equipment.

Weddings

- Wedding ceremonies may have up to 20 people, including the officiant, bride/groom, witnesses and any photographers/videographers.
 - **NOTE:** The government has now included photographers and videographers to the 20 people.
 - The Diocese does not consider the sacristan, soloist, and the instrumentalist as one of the 20 people allowed.

Funeral Masses

- Funeral Mass may have up to 20 people, not including facility staff, funeral clergy or organizers not considered guests.

Baptisms

- The Diocese limits in-person attendees to 20 people for Baptisms.
- The celebrant and the sacristan are not included in the 20 attendees.
- The use of masks and proper physical distancing are required during the celebration of the rite.

Adoration

- The capacity limit for the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the nave of the church is 1/3 of the fire code occupancy.

Social Gatherings

- Outdoor social gatherings, with proper distancing, allowed up to 20 people.
- Indoor social gatherings are not permitted.