

# MEMORANDUM



ROMAN CATHOLIC  
**DIOCESE**  
*of Calgary*

DATE February 11, 2021  
TO Priests, Deacons, and Parish Office Staff  
FROM Rev. Wilbert Chin Jon  
SUBJECT The Resumption of In-Person Faith-Based Classes and Meetings

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On this Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes, the Diocese of Calgary is now announcing that parishes have the ability to resume in-person faith-based classes and meetings of parish programs and parish groups with compliance to the current health and safety measures:

- 15% of the fire code capacity for the space being used
- contact tracing
- mandatory masking
- proper physical distancing and using rooms that are more spacious than required
- cohorts limited to people who belong to the same household
- proper cleaning and disinfecting before and after every meeting
- proper hand washing or sanitizing
- no serving of food or beverages – individuals must bring their own and cannot be shared with others
- no social gatherings allowed.

As a general rule, if in-person meetings are not considered necessary and can be effectively accommodated virtually then doing so would be a better alternative. This would help alleviate the administrative requirements of oversight on health and safety protocols and procedures in the parish and avoid additional pressure on staff and volunteers.

**At this time, the use of churches, meeting rooms and halls in parishes should only be limited to the following:**

1. Essential parish programs
2. Essential parish group meetings that cannot be held virtually
3. Essential support groups – Support groups that had been using the parish facility before the pandemic, such as Alcoholics Anonymous, St. Vincent de Paul Society, etc.

All existing diocesan policies on the use of parish facilities apply. (Parish Regulations Manual Codes: HALL and PROP1)

**We will continue to not allow the use of parish facilities for the following:**

1. Funeral lunches and family/parish social gatherings
2. Children and youth ministry activities and school Masses with multiple classes or grades attending.
3. Non-essential group activities.