

NOTE TO PARISHES - June 14, 2021
New instructions - change to yellow zone

EFFECTIVE June 14, 2021 - Transition to YELLOW ZONE

Place of Worship:

- The number of people allowed in a gathering is a maximum of 250 people (excluding the priest and the pastoral and hospitality team on duty).
- A minimum distance of two metres is maintained between persons in the place of worship, even when they remain in their seats and do not move about, unless they are occupants of the same private residence or its equivalent.
- If the place of worship occupies an entire building, the limit applies to the building.
- Outdoor Masses are permitted; however, the rules governing places of worship must be respected, particularly with respect to the maximum number of persons admitted.
- Wearing a face covering or a procedural mask is mandatory. It may be removed when the person is in his or her seat, remains silent or speaks only in a low voice.
- No movement during the celebration.
- Attendance record keeping is not required, but it is strongly recommended that a general list of those attending the place of worship and the necessary contact information be kept.
- The previously announced measures for singing, communion and telecommuting remain.

Weddings, Baptisms, Funerals

- For weddings and baptisms the limit is 50 people, the keeping of an attendance register is mandatory as well as the wearing of a mask or face covering.
- For funerals the limit is 50 people, the keeping of an attendance register is mandatory as well as the wearing of a mask or face covering. It is permissible to have a rotation of people inside the premises during the viewing of the body or ashes of the deceased as well as during the expression of condolences to the next of kin, provided that the number of people present at the same time never exceeds the maximum allowed.

Meetings of the churchwardens

- Meetings are permitted. It will be prudent to provide a room large enough to respect the 2 m distance, and no snacks will be served. Masks must be worn; they may be removed when speaking.

These new guidelines, which take effect today, must be strictly observed for our own good and that of others. Please note that access to the offices of the Diocesan Centre remains possible by appointment only.

Most Reverend Noël Simard, Bishop