

NOTE TO THE PARISHES - March 25, 2021
IMPORTANT CHANGE FOR LEVEL 4 -
MAXIMUM ALERT (RED ZONE)

FROM MARCH 17, 2021

- Curfew: 9:30 p.m. to 5 a.m.

FROM MARCH 26, 2021

- Reception capacity of places of worship:
 - A maximum of 250 faithful; the distance of 2 meters prevails over 250 people. This limit does not apply to each room of the place of worship, but for ALL of the place of worship. It is therefore always possible to broadcast the liturgical celebration in another room with a separate entrance. For example: 150 people in the main nave + 100 people in the basement.
 - The physical distance of 2 meters must always be respected between people who do not live at the same address.
 - **For weddings, baptisms and funerals, the limit is 25 people, with the keeping of the attendance register.**
 - It is strongly recommended to continue video recording and to broadcast the celebrations on social networks for people who will not be able to join similar liturgical gatherings.
- Adjustment of certain sanitary standards:
 - Wearing the intervention mask (procedural mask) is compulsory at all times for the faithful, except when consuming Communion. Announce it ahead of time and make sure you have a certain amount to offer for the faithful if needed.
 - a distance of two meters must be maintained at all times between people who do not reside at the same address
 - no travel during the celebration
 - **keeping the attendance register remains in place.**

ADDITIONAL NOTES - valid until further notice

- **Singing:** Singing by the congregation is prohibited. Only a cantor and a musician (therefore no choir) will be able to lead the song, always in compliance with health standards.

- **Communion:** The minister of communion must travel to bring Communion to the faithful, in silence and without physical contact.

- **Meetings:**
 - **Assemblies of parishioners are authorized, with a maximum of 25 people, which respect the sanitary rules. A register is required.**
 - **Wardens assemblies** should ideally be held by phone or videoconference. Exceptionally, they can take place face-to-face, with a maximum of 12 people, who respect the sanitary rules.
 - Team meetings, governed by the CNESST, must take place remotely. If it is really impossible to do otherwise, they can take place in person, with a maximum of 12 people who respect the sanitary rules.

- **For other parish activities:**
 - Activities that take place in places of worship that are not worship activities must be managed according to the rules that apply to community organizations.
 - Group activities which constitute a direct service to the population (lessons, support group, sharing groups, catechesis, etc.) are possible, but limited to 25 people per group and per room.

- **Resources for Holy Week to share in your communities:**
 - **Office de la catéchèse du Québec:**
<https://officedecatechese.qc.ca/sens/saisons/Paques.html>
 - Diocese of Montreal - French:
<https://microsites.diocesemontreal.org/microsites/semaine-sainte-et-paques/>
 - **Diocese of Montreal - English:**
<https://microsites.diocesemontreal.org/microsites/semaine-sainte-et-paques/en/home/?fbclid=IwAR0ToWu8umQvQeTJJSfG49vgEuaFn3feUqxY7rLug3DP24tUffDfDfDfD>
 - Pray in Church: <http://ameco-medias.ca/prions-en-eglise-triduum-pascal-2/>

Bishop Noël Simard, bishop