



A Guide to Returning to Parish Operations and Ministry

| version 8 - April 27, 2021 |

EVENT OR INITIATIVE	CURRENT GUIDELINES
PARISH & SCHOOL OPERATIONS	
PRAYER & SACRAMENTS	
Sunday and Daily Mass	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity. Review CDC cleaning and sanitizing protocols here .
Wearing of Face Coverings	Best practice - and the expectation - is to wear a face covering, not only for personal protection but to be respectful of others. Priests, deacons, and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion should wear face coverings when distributing Communion.
Reception of Communion	Maintain reception of Communion under one species . Reception of Communion is recommended in the hand only. If reception on the tongue is allowed, it should be done AFTER those who have received in the hand. One designated distributor is preferred. Alternating distribution between hand and tongue is not allowed.
Lay Eucharistic Ministers	Yes, Eucharistic Ministers may be used to distribute Communion.
Choir/Singing	Beginning May 3, choirs are allowed if members should maintain social distance and wear face coverings. Cantor may remove face covering when singing .
Music	Musicians should wear face coverings and social distance. No wind or brass instruments.
Hymnals / Song books	Yes.
Worship Aids	Yes. Worship aids are allowed.

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Altar Servers	Yes, wearing face covering and maintaining social distance in sanctuary.
Presentation of Gifts	Yes, while wearing face coverings. Gifts should be covered until time of presentation.
First Communion Celebrations	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity.
Youth Confirmation	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity.
Adult Confirmation	May 23, 2021, Pentecost Sunday at the Cathedral
Weddings	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity.
Funerals	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity.
Funeral Wakes	Yes, with social distancing.
Reconciliation	Yes, with social distancing and privacy protocols. Confessionals may be used at the priest's discretion.
Baptisms	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity.
Anointing of Covid patients	Contact Vicar for Clergy for instructions.
Anointing of the Sick Services	Yes. Public communal celebrations of the Sacrament of the Sick are allowed, abiding by the Sacramental guidelines and maintaining social distancing.
Visiting/Taking Communion to Parishioners who are Homebound	Yes, clergy and limited number of parish-trained lay ministers only, taking extra caution with hygiene and handwashing, following guidelines available here . Individuals may take communion to spouse/family member, using an appropriate pyx.
Visiting Parishioners/Taking Communion into Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Assisted Living or Rehab Facilities and Senior Living Complexes	Yes, clergy and limited number of parish-trained lay ministers only, taking extra caution with hygiene and handwashing, following facility guidelines.
Processions	Yes, practicing social distancing and wearing face coverings.

EVENT OR INITIATIVE

CURRENT GUIDELINES

Children's Liturgy of the Word	Yes, with social distancing.
Distribution of Holy Water	Yes, in individual containers or automatic dispensers.
Use of Holy Water in Fonts	No
Funeral luncheons/receptions or wedding rehearsal receptions, etc.	Yes. Individually-wrapped / served food. No buffet service.
Use of parish and school buildings for parish/school activities	Yes, with social distancing protocols.
Use of parish and school buildings for outside groups	Yes. Usage limited to parish/school sponsored groups under the Catholic umbrella. Short-term rental/use allowed, if space is otherwise unoccupied or not in use (for example, summer rental), see facility usage agreement

PARISH AND SCHOOL EVENTS

In-person Graduations for 2021	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to your venue capacity. Strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocol. Please contact Office for Schools for any clarification.
Baccalaureate Masses for 2021	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity. Strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.
FORMATION	
Spring Concerts / Plays / Musicals	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to your venue capacity.
May Crownings	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to your church capacity.
Religious Education (Child and Youth, K-5, Middle/High School & Youth Ministry)	Yes, in-person formation is preferred, with social distancing and face coverings and less than 50 in attendance. Small groups encouraged. For family programs, social distancing by household. Be ready to offer alternatives and support for families who wish to form their teens at home.

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Youth Ministry: Same day retreats and gatherings, etc.	Yes, if all participants are local and less than 100 people in attendance, with social distancing protocols, a parent consent form or permission slip from all participants, and ensuring all Safe Environment requirements are met. No overnight events, no meeting in private residences, no shared meals. Individually wrapped meals okay (i.e. box lunch). Use of bus transportation is allowed if social distance seating is followed.
Youth Ministry: Overnight Youth Retreats, Conferences, Mission Trips	Yes. See guidelines here .
ACTIVITIES	
Parish Festivals	Yes. See guidelines here .
Parish Social Gatherings, such as Fun Runs/Walks, picnics, Parish picnics, etc.	Yes. Use same guidelines as parish festivals.
Parish/School Events with Food, such as bake sales, donut Sundays, etc.	No
Parish/School Auctions or Other Fundraisers	Yes. Use same guidelines as parish festivals.
Parish/School Fish Fry, Chicken Dinners, etc.	Yes, using extra cleaning and safety precautions. Limited number of volunteers. Workers wearing gloves and face coverings. Outdoor drive-through or curbside pick-up only. No inside pick up.
Parish Support Groups, AA meetings, etc.	Yes, with attendance limited only by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to meeting space capacity. Strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.
Parish Sports, Adult Athletic Programs, Open Gyms, T-ball, etc.	Yes, with proper safety protocols.
Parish Golf Outings	Yes, with social distancing and a safety plan. Individual or pre-packed meals, no buffet service. Outdoor dining only.
Meal Programs, Food Pantries and other social outreach	Yes, following state guidelines and taking extra hygiene and cleaning precautions, with social distancing protocols.
Offertory Counters	No restrictions. Follow offertory guidelines. Counters should wear face coverings and gloves.