



Archdiocese of Winnipeg

Office of the Archbishop

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MEMORANDUM

To: All Parishes

From: Archbishop Richard Gagnon *+ R. G.*

Date: February 15, 2022

Re: Changes to Public Health Orders

On Friday, February 11, 2022, the Provincial Government announced changes to Public Health Orders throughout Manitoba. The bishops of Manitoba have determined that effective Tuesday, February 15, 2022, our parishes will follow the order that allows for faith-based gatherings, including Mass, permitted for up to 50% of a church's capacity or five hundred (500) people, whichever is lower. Proof of vaccination is not required to attend mass. For outdoor faith-based gatherings, there is no capacity limit. The presider, one (1) cantor, one (1) accompanist, one (1) lector, and the live-streaming team, do not count toward the restrictions. Gatherings while in a motor vehicle (drive-in celebrations) remain permitted without limitation.

There has been a change to the celebrations of Weddings, Funerals, and Baptisms. The restrictions are as follows: a maximum of fifty (50) attendees. The presider, one (1) cantor, one (1) accompanist, one (1) lector, and the live-streaming team, do not count toward the restrictions. In addition, in the case of weddings, one (1) photographer or videographer does not count toward the restrictions; and in the case of funerals, the funeral home staff do not count toward the restrictions.

If a family requests to *extend* a wedding, funeral or baptism to a number that exceeds the regular participation limitations, meaning no capacity limit, by restricting attendance only to those **fully vaccinated**, this may be arranged in consultation with the parish pastoral leadership. In these cases, the family must take responsibility to manage the implementation of the most recent public health orders pertaining to verification of proof of vaccination.

Thank you very much.