



Archdiocese of Winnipeg

Office of the Archbishop

1495 Pembina Highway, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2C6 • Tel: 204-452-2227 • Fax: 204-475-4409 • Web: www.archwinnipeg.ca

Memorandum

To: All Parishes + R. J.

From: Archbishop Richard Gagnon

Date: November 13, 2020

Re: Clarifications from the Provincial Government on "Red (Critical)"

Further to the announcement of Red (Critical) in the Province of Manitoba, the following restrictions will apply in the Archdiocese of Winnipeg effective immediately. These were developed in conjunction with the Archdiocese of St. Boniface and the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Winnipeg.

Baptisms

The public health orders published November 12, 2020, in light of Red (Critical) restrictions throughout the Province of Manitoba, include provision for the celebration of Baptism. Order 13(3) states that, "A funeral, wedding, baptism or similar religious ceremony may take place at a place of worship provided that no more than five persons, other than the officiant, attend the ceremony." In addition, it has also been confirmed through the provincial government liaison's office that the limit of five (5) people does not include one (1) cantor and one (1) accompanist, in addition to the priest presider. This is a recent change to previously announced restrictions.

Funerals

The limit to funeral celebrations as previously indicated is five (5) people. However, the priest presider, one (1) cantor, one (1) accompanist, and funeral home staff, are not to be counted in this total.

Cohorts

At present, there is no provision for cohorts in the celebrations of weddings, funerals, and baptisms.

We will continue to monitor the situation and communicate further updates as necessary. I would ask that these clarifications be communicated to the parish community.

God bless you and your community.