



Archdiocese of Winnipeg

Office of the Archbishop

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MEMORANDUM

To: All Parishes

From: Archbishop Richard Gagnon

Date: December 17, 2021

Re: Tightened Restrictions

+ R.G.

Today, the Government of Manitoba announced tightened public health restrictions which apply throughout the province. Effective Tuesday, December 21, 2021, faith-based gatherings, including the Celebration of Mass, are permitted for up to 25% of the capacity of the space or twenty-five (25) people, whichever is lower. The presider, one (1) cantor, one (1) accompanist, one (1) lector, and the live-streaming team, do not count toward the restrictions.

The Celebrations of Weddings, Funerals, and Baptisms are allowed up to a maximum of twenty-five (25) attendees or 25% of the capacity of the building, whichever is lower. 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, up to 50% of the capacity of the space, 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.

As before, all gatherings while in a motor vehicle (drive-in celebrations) remain permitted without limitation. In addition, physical distancing and the use of facemasks are required for all indoor gatherings.

According to the provincial government, these public health orders are to remain in effect until January 11, 2022. Further announcements will be made should more information be made available by our local health officials.

Thank you very much.