



ARCHDIOCESE *of* KINGSTON

10 February 2021
St. Scholastica

Dear Clergy/Parish and Chancery Staff,

Greetings.

It was indeed welcomed news that Ontario can begin a gradual re-opening of our parishes. Today, the two regions of our diocese, Hastings Prince Edward Health Unit and Frontenac Lennox & Addington Health Unit returned to the "Green Zone" according to the Covid-19 Response Framework. The transition back allows parishes to resume Mass at 30% capacity. The other two regions, Leeds Grenville and Lanark Health Unit and Eastern Ontario Health Unit, will return to the Response Framework on Tuesday, February 16th at 12:01 a.m.

Please find attached a copy of the colour-coded Response Framework, which identifies the restrictions and requirements for each zone. It would be wise to familiarize yourself with the chart again. Also, kindly refer to the Covid-19 Parish Check List when you re-open your church and provide your volunteers with the necessary equipment and a refresher of the protocols.

The following link from the Government of Ontario provides information about the Response Framework:

[COVID-19 response framework: keeping Ontario safe and open | Ontario.ca](https://www.ontario.ca/covid-19-response-framework)

All parishes and missions are permitted to be open for Ash Wednesday at 30% capacity, while observing all pandemic health precautions that have been put in place.

Employees of parishes are encouraged to work from home as much as possible in consultation with their pastor/supervisor. The Chancery staff will return to work on Tuesday, February 16th.

I am deeply grateful to you and your volunteers for all the efforts to ensure the safety of everyone. Further, I commend your ingenuity to celebrate the Eucharist given the restrictions and protocols during the Stay-at-Home Order. This extraordinary time has challenged all of us. We may however, face additional trials as the province works to contain the virus and vaccinate the people of Ontario. I wish to ensure you of my support and appreciation for all your hard work.

May the Lord, our Divine Physician, send His grace and comfort you and renew you in His love. With prayerful best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Michael Mulhall
Archbishop of Kingston

COVID-19 Status and Protocols

	Prevent	Protect	Restrict	Control
Organized religious services, rites and ceremonies, including weddings and funerals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity limits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 30% capacity of the room indoors - 100 people outdoors text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity limits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 30% capacity of the room indoors - 100 people outdoors text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity limits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 30% capacity of the room indoors - 100 people outdoors text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity limits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 30% capacity of the room indoors - 100 people outdoors text
Meeting and event spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity limits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50 people indoors - 100 people outdoors Booking multiple rooms for the same event not permitted Maximum of 50 people per room indoors if venue operates in accordance with the approved plan from the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (Guidance for Meeting and Event Facilities During COVID-19) Limits for religious services rites or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services apply if held in meeting and event spaces: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 30% capacity of the room indoors - 100 people outdoors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity limits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50 people indoors - 100 people outdoors Booking multiple rooms for the same event not permitted Maximum of 50 people per room indoors, where physical distancing can be maintained if venue operates in accordance with the approved plan from the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (Guidance for Meeting and Event Facilities During COVID-19) Require contact information for all people Limit of 6 people may be seated together Limit volume of music to be low enough that a normal conversation is possible A safety plan is required to be prepared and made available upon request 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity limits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 50 people indoors - 100 people outdoors Booking multiple rooms for the same event not permitted Maximum of 50 people per room indoors, where physical distancing can be maintained if venue operates in accordance with the approved plan from the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (Guidance for Meeting and Event Facilities During COVID-19) Require contact information for all people Limit of 4 people may be seated together Limit volume of music to be low enough that a normal conversation is possible A safety plan is required to be prepared and made available upon request Answer entry screening questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity limits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10 people indoors - 25 people outdoors Booking multiple rooms for the same event not permitted Maximum of 10 people per room indoors, where physical distancing can be maintained if venue operates in accordance with the approved plan from the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (Guidance for Meeting and Event Facilities During COVID-19) Require contact information for all people Limit of 4 people may be seated together Limit volume of music to be low enough that a normal conversation is possible A safety plan is required to be prepared and made available upon request Answer entry screening questions
Employment of lay staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastors will ensure that all lay staff observe health precautions which include physical distancing, wearing the face mask unless you are seated at your desk alone, washing and sanitizing hands regularly, etc. If lay staff are concerned about the health precautions or their own health, they may discuss working from home with the pastor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastors will ensure that all lay staff observe health precautions which include physical distancing, wearing the face mask unless you are seated at your desk alone, washing and sanitizing hands regularly, etc. If lay staff are concerned about the health precautions or their own health, they may discuss working from home with the pastor. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastors will ensure that all lay staff observe health precautions which include physical distancing, wearing the face mask unless you are seated at your desk alone, washing and sanitizing hands regularly, etc. Pastors may arrange for lay staff to work from home. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastors will ensure that all lay staff observe health precautions which include physical distancing, wearing the face mask unless you are seated at your desk alone, washing and sanitizing hands regularly, etc. Pastors may arrange for lay staff to work from home.