



A Guide to Returning to Parish Operations and Ministry

| version 6 - September 14, 2020 |

EVENT OR INITIATIVE	PHASE ONE	PHASE TWO	PHASE THREE – No Restrictions
PARISH & SCHOOL OPERATIONS			
PRAYER & SACRAMENTS			
Sunday and Daily Mass	Yes, with attendance limited to 25 percent of occupancy, following Archbishop’s Mass Directives. Strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity, following the Archbishop’s Mass Directives. Strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	No attendance restrictions.
Face Coverings	Face coverings must be worn in compliance with the Governor’s Executive Order or other municipal orders. Priests, Deacons and Eucharistic Ministers should wear face coverings when distributing communion.	Face coverings must be worn in compliance with the Governor’s Executive Order or other municipal orders. Priests, Deacons and Eucharistic Ministers should wear face coverings when distributing communion.	Face coverings are optional. Eucharistic Ministers should consider wearing them if it eases anxiety for communicants.
Dispensation from Sunday Mass obligation	Yes, through September 13, 2020.	Dispensation expires September 14, 2020. Please review this document on the Obligation to Attend Sunday Mass. Pastor has the ability to provide individual dispensation.	No

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Reception of Communion	Reception of Communion is recommended in the hand only. Reception of communion on the tongue is allowed in SPECIAL circumstances, under the priest/deacon/parish director's discretion. 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. If the number receiving on the tongue is small (less than 5 individuals), distribution could take place after Mass, in the sacristy or other appropriate area.	Reception of Communion is recommended in the hand only. Reception of communion on the tongue is allowed in SPECIAL circumstances, under the priest/deacon/parish director's discretion. 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. If the number receiving on the tongue is small (less than 5 individuals), distribution could take place after Mass, in the sacristy or other appropriate area.	No Restrictions
Lay Eucharistic Ministers	Yes, beginning June 14, a limited number of Eucharistic Ministers may be used to assist in the distribution of communion at Sunday Mass, following the same Guidelines for Clergy. Guidelines are available here .	Yes, Eucharistic Ministers may be used to distribute communion, following the same Guidelines for Clergy.	Yes
Choir/Singing	Cantor is allowed. Social distancing from musician. No Choirs. Minimize communal singing.	Cantor is allowed. Social distancing from musician. No Choirs. Minimize communal singing.	No Restriction
Special Masses, Quinceaneras, etc.	Yes, with attendance limited to 25 percent of occupancy, following the Archbishop's Mass Directives; maintaining social distancing; and with strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity, following the Archbishop's Mass Directives. Strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	Yes, no attendance restrictions

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First Communion Celebrations	Yes, in context of Sunday Mass, with attendance limited to 25 percent of occupancy, following the Archbishop’s Mass Directives; maintaining social distancing; and with strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity, following the Archbishop’s Mass Directives. Strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	Yes
Youth Confirmation	Yes, with attendance limited to 25 percent of occupancy, following the Archbishop’s Mass Directives; maintaining social distancing; and with strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols, and with delegation from the Chancery Office.	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity, following the Archbishop’s Mass Directives. Strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	Yes
Adult Confirmation	Yes, with delegation from the Archbishop. See Guidelines here .	Yes, with delegation from the Archbishop. See Guidelines here .	When we get to Phase 3, the celebration returns to its normal time/place, at the Cathedral on Pentecost Sunday.
Weddings	For parishes who have successfully celebrated a Sunday Mass, Yes, with attendance limited to 25 percent of occupancy, following the Archbishop’s Mass Directives.	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity, following the Archbishop’s Mass Directives. Strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	Yes
Funerals	For parishes who have successfully celebrated a Sunday Mass, Yes, with attendance limited to 25 percent of occupancy, following the Archbishop’s Mass Directives.	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity, following the Archbishop’s Mass Directives. Strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	Yes

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Funeral Wakes	Yes, with social distancing protocols and strict adherence to cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	Yes, with social distancing protocols and strict adherence to cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	Yes
Reconciliation	Yes, with social distancing and privacy protocols. No confessional use.	Yes, with social distancing and privacy protocols. No confessional use.	Yes
Baptisms	Yes, celebration of communal baptisms, with attendance limited to 25 percent of occupancy, following the Archbishop’s Mass Directives; maintaining social distancing; and with strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	Yes, with attendance limited by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity, following the Archbishop’s Mass Directives. Strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	Yes
Anointing of the Sick	Viaticum for those who are actively dying. Yes, for individual requests for anointing, following State guidelines and taking extra hygiene and cleaning precautions.	Viaticum for those who are actively dying. Yes, for individual requests for anointing, following State guidelines and taking extra hygiene and cleaning precautions.	Yes
Anointing of the Sick Services	No public communal celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick.	No public communal celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick.	Yes, taking extra hygiene and cleaning precautions.
Individual Anointing of Non-Covid-19 Parishioners not in a Hospital or Nursing Home	Yes, taking extra caution with hygiene and handwashing and following the guidelines available here .	Yes, taking extra caution with hygiene and handwashing, following the guidelines available here .	Yes, taking extra caution with hygiene and handwashing.
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 .	Yes, clergy and limited number of parish-trained lay ministers only, taking extra caution with hygiene and handwashing, following guidelines available here .	Yes, taking extra hygiene precautions.

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Visiting Parishioners/Taking Communion into Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Assisted Living or Rehab Facilities and Senior Living Complexes	Only by priest/deacon or parish director, following Hospital/Nursing Home Guidelines.	Yes, clergy and limited number of parish-trained lay ministers only, taking extra caution with hygiene and handwashing, following Facility Guidelines.	Yes, following Hospital/Nursing Home Guidelines
Processions	Yes, practicing social distancing and wearing face coverings.	Yes, practicing social distancing and wearing face coverings.	Yes
RCIA - for the full initiation of the Elect	August 15, 2020, following the Office for Worship’s outline of how the ritual should be celebrated, or on an alternate date within the following two months, notifying the Chancery of the alternate date.	August 15, 2020, following the Office for Worship’s outline of how the ritual should be celebrated, or on an alternate date within the following two months, notifying the Chancery of the alternate date.	When we get to Phase 3, the celebration returns to its normal time/place, at the Easter Vigil
Eucharistic Adoration	Yes, at the pastor/parish director’s discretion, with attendance of 50 or less, following social distancing and cleaning protocols.	Yes, at the pastor/parish director’s discretion, 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.	Yes
Rosary or other Communal Prayer	Yes, at the pastor/parish director’s discretion, with attendance of 50 or less, following social distancing and cleaning protocols.	Yes, at the pastor/parish director’s discretion, 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.	Yes
Children’s Liturgy of the Word	No	No	Yes
Distribution of Holy Water	No	No	Yes
Funeral luncheons/receptions or wedding rehearsal receptions, etc.	No	No	Yes

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Distribution of paper bulletins		Yes, upon exit only. Distributed by ushers wearing masks and gloves while keeping as much social distance as possible. Avoid Table or Rack distribution	Yes, upon exit only. Distributed by ushers wearing masks and gloves while keeping as much social distance as possible.	Yes
Parish offices open to the public		Yes, with social distancing protocols.	Yes, with social distancing protocols.	No restrictions.
Parish staffs returning to normal operations		Yes, with social distancing protocols.	Yes, with social distancing protocols.	No restrictions.
Pastoral Council and parish and school committees		Yes, with social distancing protocols. Zoom or similar preferred.	Yes, with social distancing protocols.	No restrictions.
Use of parish and school buildings for parish/school activities		Yes, with social distancing protocols.	Yes, with social distancing protocols.	No restrictions.
Use of parish and school buildings for outside groups		No	No	Yes
PARISH AND SCHOOL EVENTS				
In-person Graduations for 2021		Plan, but wait for further direction and approval from Office for Schools.	Plan, but wait for further direction and approval from Office for Schools.	Yes
Baccalaureate Masses for 2021		Yes, with attendance limited only by your ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to church capacity. Strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	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.	Yes
Athletics	Elementary (K-8) School	No	No	Yes, with sport-specific precautions in place
	High School	Allowed, in alignment with WIAA Guidelines	Yes, in alignment with WIAA Guidelines	Yes, in alignment with WIAA Guidelines

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Before/After School Care	Follow DHS/DPI Directives for Schools	Follow DHS/DPI Directives for Schools	Follow DHS/DPI Directives for Schools
Day Care Programs Independent from School Operations	Yes, pursuant to the Governor’s Emergency Orders, #6 and #28.	Yes, consult with Catholic Mutual	Yes, consult with Catholic Mutual
FORMATION			
First Communion Preparation	Yes, at home prep and small groups may take place with less than 50. Social distancing by household.	Yes, at home prep and small groups may take place with less than 100. Social distancing by household.	Yes, First Communicant and Parent Gathering for prayer, formation and rehearsal.
Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation Conference	Yes, instructions available online: MarriagePreparation	Yes, instructions available online: MarriagePreparation	Yes, completed via in-person conferences and follow-up videos: MarriagePreparation
Religious Education (child and youth, K-5), 2020-2021, Beginning in Fall	Yes, with social distancing and less than 50 in attendance. Small groups encouraged. For family program, social distancing by household. At-home and online formation are options.	Yes, in-person formation is preferred, with social distancing 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.	Yes, but may still want to supplement with online and take-home components.
RCIA/Adult Confirmation Process	Yes, online/virtually or in person, with less than 50 people, with social distancing and cleaning protocols.	Yes, online/virtually or in person, with less than 50 people, with social distancing and cleaning protocols.	Yes
Middle/High School Religious Education & Youth Ministry: Sessions at Parish	Yes, with social distancing protocols and <50 people in attendance. Small groups are particularly encouraged. Be ready to offer alternatives & support for families who wish to form their teens at home.	Yes, in-person formation is preferred, with social distancing 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.	Yes <i>Be ready to offer alternatives & support for families who wish to form their teens at home.</i>

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Youth Ministry: Same day retreats and gatherings, etc.	Yes, if all participants are local and less than 50 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 bus transportation, no meetings in private residences, no shared meals. Individually wrapped meals okay (i.e. box lunch).	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.	Yes
Youth Ministry: Overnight Youth Retreats, Conferences, Mission Trips	No	No	Yes
Youth Ministry: CYM Athletics	No	No	Yes, with caution
Youth Ministry & Confirmation Resources	https://www.archmil.org/YouthEv/virtual	https://www.archmil.org/YouthEv/virtual	https://www.archmil.org/YouthEv/virtual
FORMATION AND EVANGELIZATION IN-PERSON EVENTS			
Young Adult, Brew City and other Gatherings	Yes, outside gatherings allowed. Less than 100 people, practicing social distancing.	Yes, with attendance limited only by the ability to effectively maintain social distancing in relation to meeting space capacity. Strict adherence and vigilance with cleaning and sanitizing protocols.	Yes
Adult Formation, small groups, Bible study, faith-sharing groups, etc.	Yes, with social distancing protocols and less than 50 people.	Yes, with social distancing protocols and less than 50 people.	Yes
ACTIVITIES			
Parish Festivals	No, can tentatively plan for festival, but do not sign any contracts.	No, can tentatively plan for festival, but do not sign any contracts.	Yes, but need to take extra cleaning precautions and abide by any state restrictions for large gatherings.

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Parish Social Gatherings, such as Fun Runs/Walks, picnics, Coffee and Donut Sundays, etc.	No	No, can tentatively plan, but do not sign any contracts.	Yes, but need to take extra cleaning precautions and abide by any state restrictions for large gatherings.
Parish and School Fundraisers, bake sales, rummage sales, etc.	No	No, can tentatively plan, but do not sign any contracts.	Yes, but need to take extra cleaning precautions and abide by any state restrictions for large gatherings.
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.	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.	Yes, with extra cleaning and safety precautions.
Parish Support Groups, AA meetings, etc.	Yes, 10 or less, with social distancing and cleaning protocols.	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.	Yes
Parish Sports, Adult Athletic Programs, Open Gyms, T-ball, etc.	No	No	Yes
Meal Programs, Food Pantries and other social outreach	Yes, following State guidelines and taking extra hygiene and cleaning precautions, with social distancing protocols.	Yes, following state guidelines and taking extra hygiene and cleaning precautions, with social distancing protocols.	Yes
RETURNING TO PARISH AND SCHOOL OFFICES			
Wash hands often	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cover coughs	Yes	Yes	Yes

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Cleaning objects and surfaces	Yes	Yes	Yes
Physical distancing to six feet when possible	Yes	Yes	Yes
Face coverings	Face coverings must be worn in compliance with the Governor’s Executive Order or other municipal orders. Wear coverings in public areas of offices.	Face coverings must be worn in compliance with the Governor’s Executive Order or other municipal orders. Wear coverings in public areas of offices.	Optional
Meetings	Yes, with social distancing	Yes, with social distancing	Yes
Food for sharing	No, with no shared coffee service.	No, with no shared coffee service.	Yes
Visitors to the Parish and School Offices	Yes, with social distancing protocols.	Yes, with social distancing protocols.	Yes
FOOD SERVICE			
Coffee and Donut Sunday	No	No	Yes, served by volunteers wearing face coverings and gloves, following food safety procedures.
In person events such as Dances, Auctions, Run/Walks, etc., serving food.	No	No	Plated meals or Cafeteria Style Buffet line served by volunteers wearing face coverings and gloves, following food safety procedures.
Funeral or Wedding/Anniversary Receptions with Food	No	No	Yes, served by volunteers wearing face coverings and gloves, following food safety procedures.