

**COMMUNIQUÉ No. 60 – FEBRUARY 18, 2022
INFORMATION**

**To members of pastoral teams,
To priests, deacons, PCLs, LPAs,
To the faithful active in their communities,
To members of religious communities,
To Archdiocesan staff,**

Dear brothers and sisters,

Following the good news we received earlier this week, here are some updates:

1. LITURGICAL ACTIVITIES

At all times until further notice

- The wearing of a mask remains required inside;
- Hand hygiene measures remain in effect;
- A distance of one meter is observed between individuals or between "bubbles";
- No movement during the celebration (one remains in one's place). For communion, this means that the ministers move towards the faithful who remain in their pews;
- We will soon revise the liturgical instructions for the celebration of the sacraments (e.g. entrance processions to Masses; anointing for baptism or confirmation). Thank you for your patience.

a) As of February 21

- 50% of the venue's capacity, up to a maximum of 500 participants, with no vaccination passport requirement. This limit also applies to funerals and all other types of celebrations;
- Viewing of the body or ashes in a place of worship: maximum of 50 people, with rotation, without a vaccination passport.

b) Effective February 28

- No pre-set maximum of participants (respecting the one-metre distance between single persons or "bubbles"), no vaccination passport requirement. This limit also applies to funerals;
- Exposure of the body or ashes in a place of worship: maximum of 50 people, with rotation, without vaccine passport.

*** Vaccine passport still required for celebrations this coming weekend (Feb 19-20).

2. PRIVATE EVENTS IN A PUBLIC PLACE (e.g.: Parish Halls)

- As of February 21, they are possible with the requirement of a vaccination passport, maximum of 50 people;
- As of March 14, they will be possible WITHOUT the requirement of a vaccination passport, without a predetermined limit of participants (but always with the distance of one meter).

3. ASSEMBLIES, MEETINGS, CONVENTIONS

- As of February 21, meetings considered essential to the operation of a non-profit organization are permitted WITHOUT requiring the vaccination passport, with a limit of 50% of the capacity, up to a maximum of 250 people (for example: a parish assembly, annual general assembly, a Knights of Columbus assembly, etc.);
- As of February 21, conventions are also permitted with the requirement of a vaccination passport; limit of 50% of the capacity, up to a maximum of 500 people.

4. WORK/PRESENCE IN THE PARISH OFFICE

- As of February 28, telecommuting will no longer be required. We do, however, recommend a hybrid work/attendance/telework arrangement. Fabrique assemblies and pastoral team meetings are possible in person, according to the rules of the CNESST: wearing a mask, no requirement of a vaccination passport, distance of one meter between participants.

5. CHOIRS

- Choir members are considered volunteers or employees of the place of worship by the CNESST;
- **Reminder: as employees or volunteers, choir members are not required to present their vaccination passport;**
- When the choir is singing in front of the congregation, the minimum distance between the choir and the congregation is 2 meters:
 - Starting February 21, the audience is limited to 50% of its capacity for a maximum of 500 people;
 - Starting February 28, the audience has no capacity limit (within the distance of one meter).

Sanitary rules to be followed for the choir members:

- If we do not have the proof of vaccination of the choir members :
 - We maintain 2 meters between;
 - Surgical grade mask required at all times (including during singing);
- If we have proof of vaccination of the choir members:
 - **If all choir members voluntarily agree to present their vaccination passport, the following rules apply (it is understood that if any member refuses to present his or her proof of vaccination, the above rules apply):**
 - A distance of one meter is kept between singers;
 - No limit to the number of singers;

- The mask may be removed during singing, and put back on when not singing.

6. CATECHESIS

For catechetical activities, the rules for indoor recreational and sports activities must be followed (in French only): [here](#)

- The vaccination passport is required for participants 13 years of age and older.
- Indoor sports and leisure activities are permitted with a limit of 25 people per group. Limiting contact and ensuring group stability remain good practices.
- In order to limit contact, it is strongly recommended to apply distancing measures, when possible, between each person.
- Workers (monitors, coaches, instructors, guides, etc.) must apply the [measures required by the CNESST](#)

The situation is evolving rapidly. Thank you, brothers and sisters, for staying tuned to further updates. Despite the good news, we are not yet out of the woods. I wish you courage, wisdom and discernment for the continuation of your pastoral action.

In Jesus our Savior,



† Alain Faubert, VG
Auxiliary Bishop of Montreal