



Archdiocese of Vancouver

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

AS OF JULY 1st:

1. **Is the Sunday obligation reinstated?**
 - Not for this weekend, however it will be reinstated for the following weekend and details will be provided next week.
2. **Is there no limit now on the number of people attending Mass?**
 - There is no limit.
3. **Are masks optional now?**
 - Yes. We strongly recommend, however, that you follow the guidance of the Public Health Officer: “Masks are recommended in public indoor settings for all people 12 and older who are not yet fully vaccinated.”
4. **No more pre-registration for contact tracing purposes?**
 - No, there should be no registration or taking of people’s information at the church entrance.
5. **Will singing by the congregation be permitted now?**
 - Yes.
6. **Can we ask our choirs to come back?**
 - Yes, choirs can return to normal.
7. **Can we now put out hymnals, missals, envelopes, etc. in the church pews?**
 - Yes.
8. **For weddings, funerals and baptisms – is it still 50 people or 50% of capacity whichever is greater?**
 - No, because they take place within the liturgy (worship). For all weddings, funerals and baptisms there are no limitations for attendance.
9. **Does this mean that there is no more necessity for social distancing?**
 - Correct, there is no social distancing required.
10. **Can we re-open the bathrooms?**
 - Yes, bathroom facilities should be fully reopened.
11. **Do we still need to allow an hour between services, so that people leaving the last mass don't cross paths with people arriving for the next mass?**
 - No, Mass times can return to normal.

- 12. Can we return to people taking a missal when they arrive for a weekday mass, and putting it back in the box when they leave?**
- Yes.
- 13. What about groups using the Church?**
- Any groups using the Church are subject to the health orders regarding Organized Gatherings: “Indoor organized gatherings 50 people or 50% capacity, whichever is greater.”
- 14. What about other kinds of gatherings in the basement, hall or meeting rooms?**
- Any other gathering is subject to the health orders regarding Organized Gatherings: “Indoor organized gatherings 50 people or 50% capacity, whichever is greater.”
- 15. Do attendance restrictions still apply to adoration, holy hours or other prayer services in the Church?**
- Yes. Non-liturgical gatherings in the church are limited to 50 people or 50% capacity, whichever is greater.
- 16. What about coffee after Mass - social time in the basement/outside/hall?**
- Outdoor social gatherings after Mass can have 5,000 people or 50% capacity of the space, whichever is greater.
 - Indoor social gatherings after Mass can have 50 people or 50% capacity, whichever is greater.
- 17. Do we have to open up fully to all?**
- Yes.
- 18. What restrictions are there for those who are not vaccinated?**
- There are none, although “masks are recommended in public indoor settings for all people 12 and older who are not yet fully vaccinated.”
- 19. Do we still have to sanitize pews and contact services after each Mass?**
- No.
- 20. What about Communion on the tongue?**
- We will continue the current practice in place. (The priest should ask those receiving on the tongue to receive last or he might designate a specific minister for them. Moreover, it is recommended that the minister purify his fingers and use hand sanitizer after each person who receives on the tongue).
- 21. What about Communion under both species?**
- We will not reintroduce this practice at this time.
- 22. Can we shake hands at the kiss of peace? Should we?**
- The kiss of peace is to be restored according to the custom of the parish.
 - Those who are uncomfortable with shaking hands may bow or make a similar gesture to their neighbour.
- 23. Can priests and deacons share from the same cup?**
- Yes, they may.

24. Can Deacons return to their normal activities at Mass?

- Yes, they may.

25. Are there any special instructions regarding altar servers, lectors or extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist?

- They can return to their normal practice.

26. Should we retain our plastic or plexiglass barriers?

- They are no longer necessary.

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Archdiocese of Vancouver