



Roman Catholic Diocese of Victoria

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M E M O

Date: March 11, 2022
To: Clergy, Parishes, Religious, and Staff
From: Bishop Gary Gordon
Re: Further easing of Covid-19 restrictions

With the recent announcement by the Province of further easing of Covid-19 restrictions, I wish to express my deep gratitude for all of the faithful who have been so considerate of the well-being of others by following the mandates and directives we have been given. This sacrifice has shown a deep sensitivity to the well-being of all, and has truly demonstrated the love of Christ alive in the world.

In accordance with the latest “*Gathering and Events*” Order (<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/covid-19-pho-order-gatherings-events.pdf>):

- **Capacity limits on attendance at worship services or other gatherings in church buildings are no longer required. It is highly recommended that parishes continue to encourage physical distancing.**
- **The use of face coverings is now optional in church buildings. However, the continued use of face coverings is highly recommended** as a prudent and wise choice to ensure the safety of all. This is especially true during higher-risk situations such as while singing or while distributing Communion.

We have posted revised versions of the *General and Liturgical Directives* and *Music Ministry Covid-19 Prevention Plan* that include these updates (<https://www.rcdvictoria.org/news/responsetocovid19-0>). Over the coming weeks, we will review the other sections of the *Directives* to discern what further changes may be appropriate.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact the Bishop’s Office with any questions or concerns. Thank you for the sacrifices you have made and the discipline you have shown that has allowed us to move to this less restrictive phase of the pandemic.