



St. Ninian Parish - Public Weekend Masses Resume July 3rd

Welcome Back !!!!

Effective July 3rd the Provincial guidelines for the allowable numbers at gatherings for faith services will be 50% of your church's seating capacity up to a maximum of 200 people, **with physical distancing**. Until the end of July because of the renovations in the church, we will be resuming Weekend Masses in St. Ninian Place with a limited capacity of roughly 75 people.

Our Weekend Masses will be following diocesan standards which are prudent and in keeping with medical, legal and risk management advice. They are intended as "best practices" for our Church and for the safety of parishioners. While these directives provide no guarantee to ensure that the Covid-19 virus will not be contracted, they are the most practical measures to ensure everyone's safety. Following these restrictions is a matter of faith, charity and justice. So, we thank you for assisting us in the implementation of these measures. We will be adhering to diocesan protocols which require cleaning and disinfecting, as well as ensuring the required physical distancing.

Some Guidelines Applicable to All Churches and Parish Facilities:

- (1) A physical distance of 2m (6ft) is to be strictly maintained (except among family members).
- (2) Wearing masks/face coverings is highly recommended for all over 2 years of age in case physical distancing is not always possible. (Please bring a mask/face covering).
- (3) Parishioners are strongly encouraged to self assess and if you exhibit cough, fever, headache, or any other indications of a viral infection, we ask that you seek medical attention before coming to church. Those who may not be able to attend Mass for health reasons or due to capacity restrictions are dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass.
- (4) First come, first served – To ensure compliance with provincial restrictions we will register people (names and phone numbers) at the entrance of St. Ninian Place for each Mass.
- (5) Parishioners are to sanitize their hands in the foyer before entering the hall.
- (6) Washrooms & Elevator - one person at a time (with an assistant as needed).

(7) Hymnals, Prayer Books, Bulletins, & Holy Water are removed to avoid surface contact. Bulletins are posted on the website.

(8) During Mass there is no congregation singing. One cantor will sing (3m, 10ft from people).

(9) There will be a limited number of people used in ministries, and limited processions. Therefore, at the end of Mass the monetary collection will be received in a basket at the registration area. Thank you for your offerings.

(10) There will be no Greeting of Peace during the pandemic.

(11) At Communion, the dialogue between the Priest and Communicant occurs at a 2m (6ft) physical distance (the floor is marked by a tape). After the dialogue, the person removes the mask from one ear and approaches the priest, and places one open hand upon the other to receive the Sacred Host. The priest will give communion without touching the person.

(12) Upon the strong recommendation of medical authorities, Holy Communion shall be received only in the hand at this time.

(13) In the present pandemic, communion to the Sick and Homebound will not take place. Spiritual Communion will be encouraged. The 98.8 XFM Radio Broadcast of 8:22 am Sunday Mass will continue for the foreseeable future.

(14) At Communion, people on the entire right half of the hall (on the piano side) are asked to proceed to communion up the center aisle row by row respecting physical distance. Please return to your seat by way of the right-side aisle. We ask that the people along the back of the hall on the left side of the hall, and all along the windows proceed to the back of the hall and up the center aisle, returning down the left side aisle close to the window. Finally, the people in the main part of the hall on the left of the center aisle proceed up the center aisle and return down the left aisle but remain closer to the empty chairs that you just left.

(15) At the end of Mass, we recommend the entire right-side exit beginning from the back row, respecting physical distancing. Then the left side can exit. As per the guidelines, parishioners are instructed to leave the church without spending social time with the priest and fellow parishioners at the door or in the parking lot.

(16) If you did not have time to give your name and phone number at the beginning of Mass please stop and register at the end of Mass. We need you to register.

Thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and patience as we all adjust to these pandemic limitations. We are just so overwhelmingly happy to gather again in person to have Eucharistic Celebrations, as limited as it is. If you have questions or concerns please contact Fr. Donald MacGillivray or Leonarda MacNeil, ofs both at 902-863-2338.