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Date: July 9, 2021
To: Parishes, priests and deacons
From: Fr. Dan Van Delst, Chancellor
Re: Province of Ontario – Third update on Roadmap to reopen

On July 9, 2021, the Province of Ontario gave a new update on the Roadmap to reopen. Step 3 will begin on **Friday, July 16, 2021**. Please see the information below.

Religious services (includes Mass), weddings and funerals (and baptisms):

Step 2: outdoor permitted with capacity limited to permit physical distancing of 2 metres; indoor permitted to 25% of capacity of the room. (The BAO restriction to 75 people for funeral director involvement continues until step 3.)

Step 3 (**Starting July 16**): **indoor and outdoor permitted with capacity limited to permit physical distancing of 2 metres.** (For funerals, the BAO no longer has restrictions on the size of the crowd when funeral directors are involved.)

Note: Drive-in services are allowed during all the steps.

Parishes are strongly encouraged to continue livestream Masses during the Provincial Emergency.

All COVID-19 protocols need to be observed including physical distancing and compliance with rules on face coverings. The collecting of names and contact information is still required.

Meeting and event spaces:

Step 2: outdoor spaces open at 25% capacity and other restrictions.

Exceptions that permitted to occur:

- government services
- social services
- mental health and addiction support services (for example, Alcoholics Anonymous), so long as no more than 10 people are permitted to occupy the rented space.

Step 3 (**starting July 16**): **Outdoor permitted to a capacity of 75%** and always less than 5000 people; **indoor permitted to 50% capacity** and always less than 1000 people.

All COVID-19 protocols need to be observed including physical distancing and compliance with rules on face coverings. The collecting of names and contact information is required.

Gatherings and organized public events:

Step 2: maximum 25 people for outdoor; maximum 5 people for indoor.

Step 3 (starting July 16): maximum 100 people for outdoors; maximum 25 people for indoors.

All COVID-19 protocols need to be observed including physical distancing and compliance with rules on face coverings. The collecting of names and contact information is required.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Chancery.

Thank you for your continued cooperation during these challenging days.