



Archdiocese of Vancouver
ARCHBISHOP'S OFFICE

December 2, 2021

Reverend and dear Father,

With the Provincial Health Officer's recent announcement of changes related to worship services in BC, the following initial guidance is provided on how our celebration of Mass might be affected.

Based on the recent Mass attendance census, the majority of Masses in the Archdiocese are currently attended at less than 50% of capacity. This means that for many parishes the November 30 Provincial Health Officer announcement does not require any additional steps to be taken this Sunday.

Ideas for the Christmas season will be circulated next week, since we anticipate higher attendance at Holy Mass.

In our local Church, we must avoid any attempt to establish a segregated or divisive system for Mass attendance. If your parish has Masses where attendance is higher than 50% of capacity, it is recommended that you provide at least one additional Mass at up to 50% capacity.

Proof of vaccination is required if you want more than 50% capacity at a particular Mass.

There is no immediate need to return to registration systems, and contact tracing is not required. At this time, the PHO order does not include any specifics about children.

Attached to this letter is a copy of the message received from the Provincial Health Officer on November 30.

As we prepare our hearts for the celebration of the Birth of Jesus, let us emphasize unity and charity within the Body of Christ.

With cordial greetings and the assurance of my prayers for you and for all your parishioners during this Advent season, I remain

Fraternally yours in Christ,

✠ J. Michael Miller, CSB
Archbishop of Vancouver