



ARCHDIOCESE
of
KINGSTON

Announcement

TO: Monsignor/Clergy/Parish and Pastoral Staff

FROM: Deacon Nick Whalen
Vice-Chancellor

RE: **RE-OPENING ONTARIO STEP 1**

DATE: 8 June 2021

The provincial government announced the province will move to Step One, of the gradual re-opening of Ontario, on June 11, 2021. (Over 71% of persons over the age of 18 have been vaccinated at least once and the number of new cases, and hospital admissions have come down.) Under Step One, Churches are permitted to have 15% of its' seating capacity for Masses and other forms of worship and outdoors with capacity limited to permit physical distancing of 2 meters. For example, if your church seats 200 people your seating capacity would be limited to 30 people. Continued use of a reservation system for Masses or a "first come, first seated" system will be necessary.

Parishes should review their Safety Plan and ensure that parishioners:

1. Wear face masks (unless exempted)
2. Use hand sanitizer at the entrance of the church
3. Provide contact tracing
4. Social distance
5. Cleaning Protocols

Step One will last for a minimum of 21 days.

May your celebration of the Feast of the Sacred Heart be a joyous event filled with a special note of gratitude as we move to Step 1.