

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
OF THE CURIA AND EPISCOPAL  
DELEGATE FOR ADMINISTRATION

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**DIOCESE OF BRIDGEPORT**

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To: All Clergy  
From: Deacon Patrick Toole  
Re: COVID-19 – March 2021 Updates  
Date: March 8, 2021

Recently, changes were announced by Governor Lamont with respect to COVID-19 restrictions, including capacity limitations, travel advisory and quarantine.

**Mass Capacity**

Effective March 19, 2021, there is no capacity limitation on Mass attendance. However, the state still requires masks, social distancing, and regular cleaning. Given the requirement of social distancing, we must continue to use every other pew and maintain six feet of distance between individuals/household units. It is permissible to live stream the Mass to another location on parish property to accommodate more people.

**Meeting Capacity**

Effective March 19, 2021, indoor meeting capacity is 100 people, and outdoor capacity is 200 people. Masks and social distancing are required. Self-service buffets are not allowed; self-service drink stations are allowed provided hand sanitizer is available. Per Connecticut guidelines, people must sanitize their hands before using shared dispensers. Please refer to the link below for additional guidelines for food service.

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DECD/Covid\\_Business\\_Recovery-Phase-2-1/CTReopens21\\_IndoorDining12292020.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DECD/Covid_Business_Recovery-Phase-2-1/CTReopens21_IndoorDining12292020.pdf)

**Travel Advisory**

Effective March 19, 2021, Connecticut is modifying the travel advisory from a requirement to recommended guidelines. Therefore, when traveling out-of-state for greater than 24 hours, a negative COVID-19 test is not required to resume ministry however, it is strongly recommended.

## **Self-Quarantine Guidelines**

Per CDC guidelines, individuals that have had COVID-19 or are fully vaccinated do not need to self-quarantine when exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19, subject to the following conditions:

- Are fully vaccinated (i.e.,  $\geq 2$  weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or  $\geq 2$  weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine).
- Are within 3 months following receipt of the last dose in the series.
- Have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure.

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