




DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

700 King Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8P 1C7

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

MEMORANDUM

To: Parish Priests, Deacons and Pastoral Ministers

From: Monsignor Murray J. Kroetsch, PH, VG
Chancellor 

Date: 24 September 2021

Re: Reminder re: COVID-19 Protocols for Mass

In addition to the Vaccination Policy of the Diocese of Hamilton, which you received earlier this week, I wish to remind you of the following COVID-19 protocols for Mass and the Distribution of Holy Communion which remain in effect, and to provide clarification in view of recent questions which have been received at the Chancery Office.

- All participants at Mass are required to wear masks. Anyone not wearing a mask is not to be admitted to the church unless they can provide a valid medical exemption.
- All liturgical ministers (including Lectors, Altar servers, Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, ushers and music ministers) must be fully vaccinated. Servers under the age of 12 who cannot be vaccinated are not permitted to serve at this time.
- All ministers of Holy Communion are required to sanitize their hands prior to and after distributing Holy Communion. They are also required to wear a mask or shield when distributing the Eucharist.
- Everyone is encouraged to continue receiving Communion on the hand.
- Those who wish to receive Communion on the tongue are to receive Communion from the Priest and must receive after all who have received Communion in the hand.
- The Priest is to sanitize his hands before giving Communion to the next person if he has touched someone's tongue.

These protocols are to be strictly observed in every Parish at this time in order to protect the health and safety of all who participate in the celebration of the Mass.