



**Catholic Archdiocese of  
Canberra & Goulburn**

## **Archdiocesan Protocols**

*COVID 19*

*Liturgical and Pastoral*

### ***NSW Parishes***

***Effective Friday 24 July 2020***

The NSW Government has updated its restrictions for religious gatherings. Please note the following changes:

1. **Parishes must register** their Churches as a COVID Safe Venue:

[https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-07/covid-19-safety-plan-places-of-worship\\_1.pdf](https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-07/covid-19-safety-plan-places-of-worship_1.pdf)

2. All religious services are **limited to 100 people** at all times or one person per 4 square metres, whichever is the lesser.

Father Anthony Percy

Vicar General

24 July 2020



**Catholic Archdiocese of  
Canberra & Goulburn**

***NSW Parishes***

*Effective Wednesday 1 July  
2020*

***Eucharist***

1. Masses are to be celebrated ***respecting the 4sqm per person rule*** (excluding clergy and liturgical ministers).
  - a. Communion in the hand only.
  - b. Sacred Host, not the Precious Blood, to be offered.
  - c. No touching at the sign of peace.
  - d. No collection plates are to be used, but money/envelopes placed at collection points.
  - e. 4sqm per person rule
    - i. Seating
    - ii. Standing
    - iii. During the Communion Procession
    - iv. During the movement to place money/envelopes at the collection points.
  - f. Hygiene practices
    - i. Sanitisation of hands before entering the church
    - ii. Wiping down of pews and common areas at conclusion of Mass.
    - iii. Priest and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to purify hands with sanitiser before and after offering Holy Communion.
    - iv. Limit the use of books. Ensure they are cleansed between use.
  - g. Register of people upon entering the church
    - i. Name
    - ii. Phone number and/or email
    - iii. To be kept in safe place (respecting privacy laws) for 28 days for chief medical officer.



## Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn

### *Funerals*

2. Please note: **effective Monday 15 June 2020**
3. 4sqm per person rule applies (excluding clergy and liturgical ministers). Funeral directors to keep register of people who attend.

### *Weddings*

4. 4sqm per person rule applies (excluding clergy and liturgical ministers). Parish to keep register in accord with 1(g).

### *Baptism*

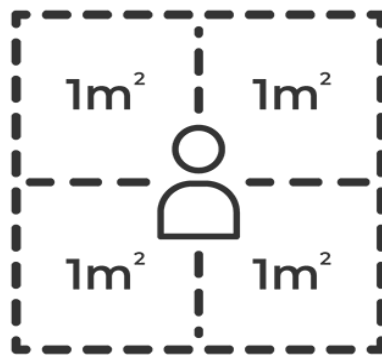
5. 4sqm per person rule (excluding clergy and liturgical ministers).

### *Penance*

6. First Rite of Penance, with priest and penitent respecting the 4sqm per person rule.
7. Second Rite of Penance to be celebrated with 4sqm per person rule (excluding clergy and liturgical ministers).

### *Prayer and Social Gatherings*

8. 4sqm per person rule applies, whether inside Church or other Church facility.





***ACT Parishes***

*Effective Friday 19 June 2020*

***Eucharist***

9. Masses are to be celebrated with ***no more than 100 people***, respecting the 4sqm per person rule (including priest and those involved in liturgical ministries).
  - a. Communion in the hand only.
  - b. Sacred Host, not the Precious Blood, to be offered.
  - c. No touching at the sign of peace.
  - d. No collection plates are to be used, but money/envelopes placed at collection points.
  - e. 4sqm per person rule
    - i. Seating
    - ii. Standing
    - iii. During the Communion Procession
    - iv. During the movement to place money/envelopes at the collection points.
  - f. Hygiene practices
    - i. Sanitisation of hands before entering the church
    - ii. Wiping down of pews and common areas at conclusion of Mass
    - iii. Priest and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to purify hands with sanitiser before and after offering Holy Communion
    - iv. Limit the use of books. Ensure they are cleansed between use.
  - g. Register of people upon entering the church
    - i. Name
    - ii. Phone number and/or email
    - iii. To be kept in safe place (respecting privacy laws) for 28 days for chief medical officer.

***Funerals***

10. No more than 100 people, respecting the 4sqm per person rule (including clergy and liturgical ministers). Funeral directors to keep register of people who attend.



## Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra & Goulburn

### *Weddings*

11. No more than 100 people, respecting the 4sqm per person rule (including clergy and liturgical ministers). Church to keep register of people who attend in accord with 9(g).

### *Baptism*

12. No more than 100 people, respecting the 4sqm per person rule (including priest and those involved in liturgical ministries).

### *Penance*

13. First Rite of penance, with priest and penitent respecting the 4sqm per person rule.
14. Second Rite of penance to be celebrated with no more than 100 people, respecting the 4sqm per person rule (including priest and liturgical ministers).

### *Prayer and Social Gatherings*

15. No more than 100 people whether inside Church or other Church facility, respecting the 4sqm per person rule.



**Catholic Archdiocese of  
Canberra & Goulburn**

***NSW & ACT Parishes***

*Effective immediately*

***Communion to Sick and Elderly Persons***

16. Normal pastoral practice resumes. Communion to sick persons in hospitals, aged care homes and private homes.

***Anointing of the Sick***

17. Normal pastoral practice resumes. Anointing of the sick in hospitals, aged care homes and private homes.
18. If the person has *COVID 19*, please consult the Vicar General.
19. Hospital rosters resume in the ACT.

***First Penance, First Holy Communion & Confirmation***

20. Normal pastoral practice resumes, respecting liturgical and pastoral protocols.

*Father Anthony  
Percy Vicar General  
16 June 2020*