



# MondayMemo

Diocese of Thunder Bay

News ♦ Notices ♦ Upcoming Events

February 28, 2022

## [Covid-Omicron Update: February 28, 2022](#)

In anticipation of the Government of Ontario making an announcement on Tuesday, March 1st about new capacities, I am alerting the parishes of the following changes, effective after the government announcement.

- - Churches will be at full capacity with no social distancing.
- - Masks must still be worn during Mass.
- - Congregational singing may begin with the wearing of masks.
- - Communion in the hand is still recommended at this time.
- - Kiss of Peace - no shaking of hands at this point.
- - Children's liturgies may begin with masks and proper distancing.
- - Sanitizers should still be available at church doors.
- - Servers etc. may continue to serve with masks and some distancing.
- - Use of Holy Water stoups is allowed.
- - Collections should be with long handled baskets or at the door.
- - Use of a children's chapel or cry room is allowed.
- - Choirs and cantors may resume with masks and distancing if unmasked.
- - Removal of pew dividers or floor markings may take place.
- - Ashes used for Ash Wednesday are to be sprinkled on the person's head with no touching.
- - Priests/Deacons/Eucharist ministers are still to wear a mask while distributing Holy Communion in church or anywhere.
- - Contact tracing or recording of attendees is no longer necessary.
- - Parishioners should monitor themselves - and if they have any symptoms of Covid or Omicron they should not attend Mass.
- - Parishes should continue on-line Masses for the present.
- - All the above should be done with prudence and careful attention to people's safety. Parishes may decide when they wish to implement the changes based on the needs of their community and the safety of their parishioners. These changes only take place after and according to the Government announcement.

Bp. Fred Colli

## [Prayers for Peace in Ukraine:](#)

"In solidarity with the Head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk, in unison with Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, with the people of Ukraine as well as with Canadians of Ukrainian origin and descent, we encourage the faithful and all people of good will to pray for the imminent restoration of peace, dialogue, and human fraternity." May all our parishes share in prayers for peace in Ukraine and for the safety of the people living there.